

## **Russia: Inside and Out**

### ***River Cruise and the Two Capitals***

*An invitation to AIA members to join a special exploration of Russia through its two historic capitals and the waterways that connect them.*

This would be a 11/10 day trip from Albuquerque led by Marina Oborotova with two days in Moscow and nine additional days including two in St. Petersburg. Stops between Moscow and St. Pete include the historic cities of Yaroslavl, Uglich, Goritsy, unique architectural monument of Kizhi with its wooden churches, and Mandrogi (green stop). For a detailed description of the tour, see below. The trip offers a remarkable view of Russia as its earliest, historic peoples would have seen it – by rivers – and an exploration of the contemporary capitals at each ends of the tour.

**Dates: June 21 – July 1, 2018 on M/S “Borodin”** (Passenger capacity: 220 people)

The price based on a group of 30 people in double occupancy is:

- **\$4,200 per person.** Single supplement price is \$600. We have 10 cabins on main deck
- **\$4,500 per person.** Single supplement price is \$925. We have 5 cabins on upper deck

#### **This price includes:**

- ✓ Airfare from Albuquerque to St. Petersburg and from Moscow to Albuquerque
- ✓ Visa fee, mailing fee
- ✓ Accommodations on the river cruise ship in outside cabins, each with private bathroom facilities, individual temperature control and large picture window
- ✓ Three meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) per day in the ship's restaurant with the same menu for all passengers irrespective of cabin category; meal service begins with dinner on day of embarkation and ends with breakfast on day of disembarkation.
- ✓ Captain's Welcome Cocktail Reception
- ✓ Gala Farewell Dinner aboard
- ✓ Full sightseeing programs in each of the ports of call (listed in a day by day program)
- ✓ Airport transfers for groups (20 people min) upon arrival/departure.
- ✓ Luggage handling to/from the ship
- ✓ Nightly entertainment
- ✓ Daily aerobics

#### **The price does not include:**

- ✓ Luggage handling in the airport
- ✓ Gratuities: gratuities for Cruise director, ship's crew members, guides and drivers are not included and are at passenger's discretion.
- ✓ Private transfers
- ✓ Miscellaneous: Items of a personal nature such as laundry, bar charges, beauty salon, telephone cable charges and medical services are not included
- ✓ Additional optional tours

**Cancellation policy:** If you must cancel your reservation, the following cancellation fees will apply:

Number of days prior to trip	Cancellation fee per person
Deposit - \$1,050.00	Non-refundable
90 days	10 %
89-60 days	25 % of price
59-30 days	50 % of price
29-7 days	75% of price
6 days and no show	100% of price

**ALL CABINS ARE EQUIPPED WITH SHOWER, TOILET, AIR-CONDITIONER, REFRIGERATOR:**

	Type of Cabin	size
1	Twin Delux, main deck	12,5 sq .m
2	Twin Delux, upper deck	12,5 sq.m

***Please note that standard cabins on a river cruise ship are small compared to those on ocean liners.***

### **Cities along the route**

**Moscow** Spend three unforgettable days in the capital of Russia and admire numerous treasures of its history and present days and enjoy its beauty!

**City tour:**

*Stops at St. Sofia Embankment of the Moskva-river; The Bolshoy Stone Bridge; stops at Cathedral of Christ the Savior and Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts; the new monument to Peter the Great; Gorky Park; stop at New Maiden Convent; observation platform of Sparrow (Lenin) Hills; Victory Park and Poklonnaya Hill with World War II Memorial; Kutuzov Avenue; White House.*

**Kremlin**

*The former residence of Russian czars, an architectural ensemble of unique beauty, which took shape between the 15-th and 20-th centuries. Cathedral Square - the center of the Kremlin with the 15-th century Assumption Cathedral, the main church of Russia, the 15-th century Annunciation Cathedral, the private church of Russian czars and the 16-th century Cathedral of the Archangel, the burial place of the czars. On the ground of the Kremlin there are famous Czar Cannon of the 16-th century and Czar Bell of the 18-th century.*

**Optional tours (\$)**

**The Armory Chamber**

*The treasury of Russian Czars with unique collections of gold and silver items of the 12-19th centuries, Russian arms and armor of the 12-16th centuries, the state regalia, thrones, carriages and coronation dressers of the 16-19th centuries, as well as ambassadorial gifts of the 16-19th centuries*

**The State Tretyakov Art Gallery**

*It is a national museum of Russian founded in 1856 by Peotr Tretyakov. The collection with its 100,000 exhibits includes 5,000 works of ancient Russian art and world famous paintings by Russian and Soviet artists as well as sculptures and examples of graphic art.*

**Moscow by night & Metro**

**Briefly:**

*Photo stops at St. Sofia Embankment of the Moskva-river, the Bolshoy Stone Bridge; driving along the Cathedral of Christ the Savior, Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, the new monument to Peter the Great; Gorky Park; photo*

stop at the New Maiden Convent; observation platform of Sparrow (Lenin) Hills; short stop at Poklonnaya (Bow) Hill with World War II Memorial; driving along Kutuzov Avenue; White House and the Kremlin; stop at the Red Square.

During the Moscow by night excursion you will be taken to Moscow underground stations, make two or three rides and see four or five stations (the most beautiful ones). Each station was to be different from the others and designed in an original manner.

The early lines opened in 1935 were the most successful in this respect. In the early fifties the luxuriously appointed and excessively decorated Circle line was built. The Komsomolskaya Station, serving the three railway station, is the most extreme, with its heavy gilt and ceiling mosaics depicting leaders on the mausoleum in Red Square.

**Uglich** Founded in 1148, Uglich is one of the most beloved towns in old Russia. The view of the town as it is approached from the Volga River is especially lovely with the Cathedral of the Resurrection and St. John's Church looming on the horizon.

At the end of the 16th century, Maria Nagaya, seventh wife of Ivan the Terrible, lived in honorary exile in the Kremlin at Uglich. It was here in her garden that the Tsarevich Dmitry met his death and where the Church of St. Demetrius of the Blood was built and still stands today. Within the Kremlin is the oldest building in Uglich, the Palace of Tsarevich Dmitry.

**Yaroslavl** Stretching for 18 miles on both banks of the Volga, Yaroslavl is an important Volga port with a population of 600,000. It was founded in the 11th century by Prince Yaroslav the Wise and today retains many noteworthy monuments of its colorful past.

Of special interest is the magnificent 13th-century Spassky Monastery ensemble, a group of majestic 17th century cathedrals, an elegant rotunda and remnants of an ancient trading center. Loveliest of all is the Church of Elijah the Prophet, situated in the town's central square. The frescoes on the walls and vaulting inside the church constitute a veritable museum of old Russian paintings.

**Goritsy** is a tiny settlement seven kilometers from the Kirillo-Belozersky monastery. Visit what remains of the Nunnery of the resurrection on the banks of the Sheksna River in Goritsy, within a quarter of a mile of where the ship stop, will be a treat for any tourist with a real interest in Russian history

**Kizhi** Via the Volga/Baltic canal, our cruise takes us to the tiny island of Kizhi, located at the northern end of lake Onega. Renowned for its open-air Museum of Architecture assembled from various areas of the country and restored to form a glimpse of the past.

**Mandrogi**. Green Stop. In the village there are some structures built according to the Russian fine traditions of wooden architecture. Village dwellers meet the quests and organize something special for them. There is a museum of Russian Vodka where tourists can get acquainted with the history of Russian vodka industry (payment on the spot). Remeslennaya Sloboda, walking in the picturesque woods.

**Saint-Petersburg** created by Peter the Great to rival Venice, its 101 islands, 66 canals, and hundreds of bridges have secured its reputation as the most beautiful city in the country. While your ship is docked in port, you'll enjoy daily sightseeing tours. You will see the Nevsky prospect's shops, cafes and theatres, and you will tour the impressive St. Isaac's, the city's large cathedral, now a museum of elaborate icons and artworks. We will spend time in the world famous hermitage Museum, formerly the Winter Palace, home of the last six czars. A treasure trove of three million exhibits, its 320 halls display DaVincis, Rembrandts, Titians, Michelangelos, French impressionists and North American artists.