Vodka Shot 6 days

St Petersburg and Moscow in one short blast. Enjoy Pukka Russia, seeing the best of these two legendary cities, from the incredible Hermitage and Church on Spilled Blood to brightly coloured St Basil's Cathedral and the mighty Kremlin. It's the most fun you can have in under a week!

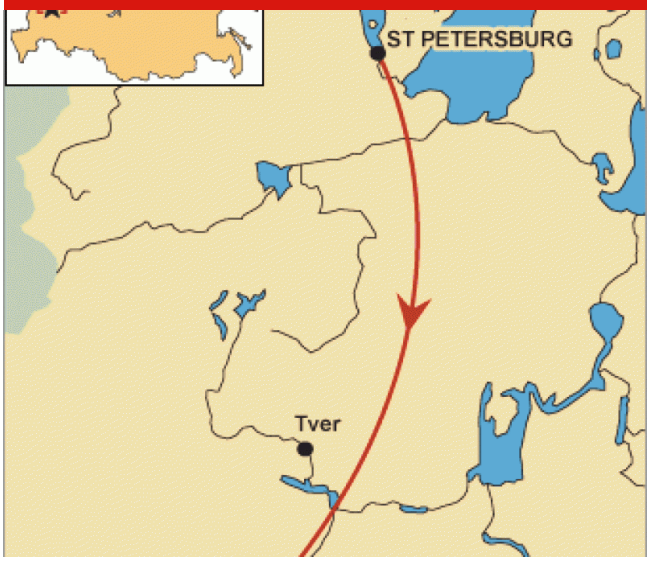
TOUR DETAILS:

- Starts in: St Petersburg / Ends in: Moscow
- Departs: Tuesdays - year round
- No local payment required
- Breakfast:5, Lunch: 0, Dinner: 0
- Hotel Rating: 3 star
- Tour Guide: Yes

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- For a detailed GO GUIDE - click here
- To book this trip - click here
- To enquire about this trip - click here

TOUR MAP:



QUICK WEB LINKS

Russia Prices ::: Russia - Why Us? ::: Russia Reviews ::: Our Russia Blog ::: Russia Top Spots ::: Best Time to Travel ::: Festivals & Events ::: Hotels in Russia ::: Russia Useful Info ::: FAQs on Russia ::: Russia Visas ::: Russia Gallery

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Day 1: St Petersburg

Tuesday. Welcome to Russia and the start of your holiday! Arrival transfer from St Petersburg Pulkovo Airport to your hotel and check in. Tonight, our tip filled Welcome Meeting takes place. Rest of evening free. Your tour leader will recommend some local bars and restaurants for you to try out. Overnight - St Petersburg

Day 2: The Hermitage

Stunningly grandiose St Pete's - founded by Peter the Great in 1703 is built around a series of bridge-connected canals and rivers. We start the day with a city tour, driving along Nevsky Prospekt, we stop to see the outside of the Church on Spilled Blood and explore Peter and Paul Fortress, giving us a solid introduction of this beautiful city. At one time a gruesome prison within the Peter and Paul Fortress compound is SS Peter and Paul Cathedral - housing the tombs of the Romanov monarchs. Later, we enjoy a guided tour of the treasure-filled Hermitage at the Winter Palace. Overnight - St Petersburg

Day 3: Free Time to Explore

A free day to explore, alternatively jump on board with our optional Pukka Pass! The Pukka Pass includes entrance fees and guiding, with visits to the Church On Spilled Blood, Peterhof in summer or Catherine or Pavlovsk Palace in winter and lunch. Later this evening we board our overnight sleeper train bound for Moscow. Overnight - Sleeper Train

Day 4: Moscow's Red Square

Moscow. The city that kept Bond busy. At Red Square, we enjoy a guided walk of the Kitay Gorod and Lubyanka area. Discover the delights of Red Square, home to St Basil's, the GUM department store and Lenin's Mausoleum. The rest of the day is free for you to further explore. Overnight - Moscow

Day 5: The Kremlin

Today, we tour Russia's powerhouse - the mighty Kremlin, with a guided walk through the grounds where we'll see numerous government buildings, gold-domed cathedrals and the tsar bell - the largest bell that never rang! Later you can visit St Basil's Cathedral, commissioned by Ivan IV (also known as Ivan the terrible) in 1555 to commemorate the capture of the Khanate of Kazan. The multi-tented cathedral with brightly coloured onion shaped domes is destinctively iconic Russia.

Afterward there is free time. If open, you can pay your respects to the grandfather of Communism at Lenin's mausoleum. The city offers amazing galleries, museums, plenty of cafes, shops (including the GUM department store for high rollers) and bars all within walking distance. Alternatively, hop from station to station using your Metro pass. Be sure to take the circle line to fully view and absorb the opulence of Stalin's marble clad, chandelier lit underground stations. Overnight - Moscow

Day 6: Moscow

Sunday. Our Vodka Shot tour ends after breakfast and hotel check out at 12 noon.

WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU GET:

Below is a list of key highlights and what is included on this tour. Further, where appropriate, we have listed the items that are not included in the tour price.

Trip Highlights

- **St Petersburg** - UNESCO-listed city area including: Nevsky Prospekt, Museum and University districts, Church on Spilled Blood (exterior only), The Bronze Horseman, Admiralty End, St Petersburg Hermitage at the Winter Palace
- **Moscow** - UNESCO-listed Red Square, Kremlin and Lenin's Mausoleum and St Basil's Cathedral
- Other sites of St Petersburg included on the optional pukka pass

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What's Included

- 5 breakfasts
- 4 nights 3 star hotels
- 1 overnight train St Petersburg - Moscow (open sleeper cabin) including bed linen
- Airport arrival transfer on day 1
- Guided sightseeing - St Petersburg city, Hermitage at Winter Palace, Moscow's Red Square and Kremlin
- Moscow Metro travel card - 6 journeys
- Escorted by an English speaking Russian tour leader
- Specialist Russian guides at local sights
- All relevant transfers and transportation on tour
- Note: In Russia on the go use 3 star accommodation as classified by the Russian Ministry of Tourism. However, please be aware that the 3 star standards throughout Russia vary greatly and cannot be compared to hotels of a similar standard in Western Europe or, and in particular, the United States.

What's Not Included

- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture
- International flights and visa
- Entrance Fees: $50-60 USD

BOLT-ONS:

Make the most of your time away! Listed below are the optional activities that are available on this trip. Please note that you will need to book these prior to travel as we cannot always guarantee availability of these activities once you are on holiday.

Pukka Pass - USD $149

Start the day with a visit to either the gardens of palatial Peterhof, overlooking the Gulf of Finland in the summer OR Catherine Palace at Tsarskoe Selo in the winter (Pavlosk Palace is viewed if Catherine Palace is closed). We stop for lunch at the popular restaurant, where we enjoy a hearty meal, before exploring inside the beautiful Church on Spilled Blood.

Catherine Palace or Peterhof - USD $89

Take a step back in time - enjoy a guided tour of the stunning Royal Residences of the Russian Tsars, located in the outskirts of St Pete's and admire the beautiful Russian countryside on the way. Our Catherine Palace (winter) or Peterhof Gardens (summer) bolt on is available on all tours visiting St Petersburg.

Inside a Soviet Bunker - USD $109

Head 65 meters underground to the Underground Cold War Museum - a Stalinist-era Soviet Bunker that up until recently was a top secret symbol of Soviet Power. This mighty 75,000-square-foot facility was constructed covertly in the 1950s, to protect the select few against a US nuclear attack. Step back in time to the clandestine and tense era of the Cold War and enjoy an interactive tour of this bunker turned museum, followed by a tour of the most luxurious and extravagant of the Stalinist era metro stations with their marble columns and chandeliers all with an English speaking guide.

Novgorod Countryside Stay - USD $549

Escape the bustling city of St Petersburg with an overnight stay in a country house in ancient Novgorod. Your visit begins with a tour of the historic Kremlin (Fortress) grounds and the open air museum of Russian wooden architecture. You've free time to admire Novgorod - listed by UNESCO as one of the top 100 cities of the world. Why not soak up the views from a leisurely walk along the Volkhov river, visit one of the great medieval abbeys, or wander round the quaint shops and bars.

PRICES AND DATES: from USD $1,089

Prices shown are per person travelling. 'Twin/Double' prices per person apply when there are 2 people travelling, sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the 'Twin/Double' price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same sex on your tour, this can be arranged, thus avoiding the single person supplement. All our group tours are guaranteed to depart subject to a minimum of 2 travellers.

2013

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
04 JUN - 09 JUN	USD $1,199	USD $599
02 JUL - 07 JUL	USD $1,199	USD $599
16 JUL - 21 JUL	USD $1,199	USD $599
30 JUL - 04 AUG	USD $1,199	USD $599
20 AUG - 25 AUG	USD $1,199	USD $599
10 SEP - 15 SEP	USD $1,199	USD $599
08 OCT - 13 OCT	USD $1,199	USD $599
15 OCT - 20 OCT	USD $1,199	USD $599
12 NOV - 17 NOV	USD $1,089	USD $489
03 DEC - 08 DEC	USD $1,089	USD $489

2014

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
11 FEB - 16 FEB	USD $1,089	USD $489
18 FEB - 23 FEB	USD $1,089	USD $489
25 FEB - 02 MAR	USD $1,089	USD $489
11 MAR - 16 MAR	USD $1,089	USD $489

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08 APR - 13 APR	USD $1,199	USD $599
15 APR - 20 APR	USD $1,199	USD $599
06 MAY - 11 MAY	USD $1,199	USD $599
16 MAY - 21 MAY	USD $1,329	USD $599
03 JUN - 08 JUN	USD $1,199	USD $599
01 JUL - 06 JUL	USD $1,199	USD $599
15 JUL - 20 JUL	USD $1,199	USD $599
29 JUL - 03 AUG	USD $1,199	USD $599
19 AUG - 24 AUG	USD $1,199	USD $599
09 SEP - 14 SEP	USD $1,199	USD $599
07 OCT - 12 OCT	USD $1,199	USD $599
14 OCT - 19 OCT	USD $1,199	USD $599
11 NOV - 16 NOV	USD $1,089	USD $489
02 DEC - 07 DEC	USD $1,089	USD $489

Supplementary Prices

	Price/Person	Single Supp.
4 Berth Sleeper Train Upgrade St Petes - Moscow	USD $99	USD $0

POSTCARDS:

Here's what some of our past travellers have written in to us and said about their experiences on this trip.

Hello Charlie, The service by yourself on behalf of On the Go tours was first class from start to finish. You were always helpful (got us cheaper flights!) and steered us through the visa maze. We had a brilliant holiday and enjoyed eating and drinking at local places. We loved St.Petersburg and Moscow, and the hotels were superb. Tatiana and Olga our guides were friendly, pleasant and knowledgeable and went out of their way to make our stay a good one. Tatiana's religious knowledge was encyclopaedic. Sergei, our Kremlin guide was also a friendly, knowledgeable man who was able to recommend cafe bars where we could rest our weary feet at the end of the day! We will be travelling with On the Go again and indeed have already recommended it to a friend. Thanks for everything.

Eileen Barron, Mar 2013

I was most impressed with our guide - Vladimir, his knowledge, style, professional approach. I have had many tour guides - he was definitely the best!

Ronald Smith , Aug 2012

I have really enjoyed this trip. Thank you.

Kirsty Gray , Aug 2012

Thank you, Eugeny, for such a fantastic tour. I had a great time. Great historical and art information with such enthusiasm and passion! Particularly for the National Show!!!

Jacqueline Mordue , Aug 2012

Eugeny, our tour leader, was fantastic. He went out of his way to solve any problems. He was passionate and knowledgeable about his subject. He was an absolute pleasure to be around, and made the tour!

Thomas Mcleod , Aug 2012

Hi Sarah, Just writing to say that I had another great holiday with On the go. St Petersburg and Moscow were both fantastic places to visit. Eugene was such a kind, funny and helpful guide. His knowledge and information about all the places we visited was excellent, and his enthusiasm for both his country and the topics he talked about were infectious! I particularly enjoyed seeing the grand rooms of the Winter Palace and the amazing artwork of the Hermitage. The sight of St Basil's cathedral lit up at night was breathtaking. The decorations and icons inside the cathedrals of St Basil's and The Church on Spilt Blood were amazing. I also enjoyed the tour of the stations of the Moscow Metro and the visit to the Soviet Bunker. Thanks again for such a fantastic tour.

Jacqueline Mordue , Aug 2012

Thoroughly enjoyed my brief visit to Moscow and St. Petersburg. Victoria was a great guide. All in all I had a fabulous time.

Julie Capil , Jul 2012

This is my second time with ON THE GO and it was thoroughly enjoyable and well organised. Great guide and lovely accommodation. Everything went very smoothly.

Jan Cooke , Jul 2012