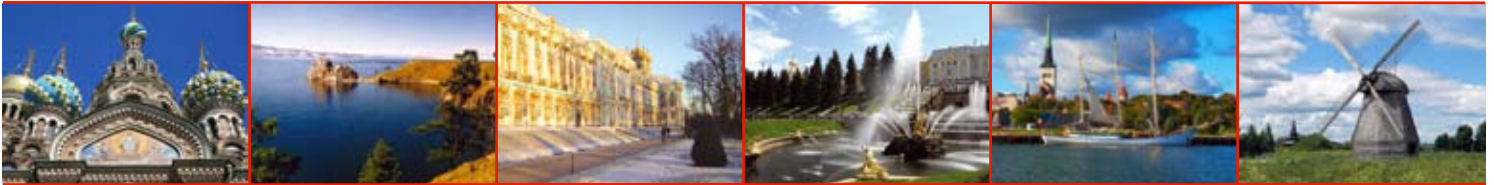


mood for moscow

# go guide

don't leave home without it



## tour spotlight

### what you see

- Moscow  
UNESCO-listed Red Square  
St Basil's Cathedral  
Lenin's Mausoleum
- Day 3 is a free for you to explore on your own.  
Optional tours below are available on this day at an additional cost:
- Moscow Kremlin - morning (pay locally)
- Soviet Bunker- afternoon (pay at time of booking)

Please Note: Entrance fees are payable by you, locally.  
Budget approximately USD\$30 for your entire tour. This amount will include entrance fees for the Moscow Kremlin, St Petersburg Hermitage and other sites visited on your tour.

### what you get

- 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights 3★ hotels
- Airport arrival transfer on day 1
- Guided sightseeing day 2 - Moscow's Red Square and St Basil's Cathedral
- Moscow Metro travelcard (6 journeys)
- Services of an English speaking Russian tour leader (for groups of 6 or more) during your stay.
- Relevant transfers and transportation throughout your stay



## on location

### Your guide to on the ground...

#### visa requirements

Visas are required by all visitors to Russia. If you book an on the go tour directly with us or through your travel agent, we can obtain the letter of invitation for you which is required for Russian visa applications. If a resident of the UK, we'll provide visa forms and can arrange visa procurement. If resident overseas, please contact a specialist visa company. Further information is also available online at onthegotours.com. It is your responsibility to ensure you procure your visa in a

timely fashion. We recommend you apply for your visa at least 1 month before departure. Visa fees are at your own expense.

#### climate

Continental, with distinct periods of warm and very cold weather. Summer days from mid-May - early Sept are warm and very long. Autumn is brief, and by end Nov, temps plummet and the snow arrives. Spring arrives bringing with it the great thaw in March and April. If visiting in winter, wear extremely warm attire inc. a hat, gloves, long coat, thermals and sensible shoes.

#### time

Western Russia is 3 hours ahead of GMT.

#### money

GBP 1=RUB 45 USD 1=RUB 29 AUD 1=RUB 27 EUR 1=RUB 40 (subject to fluctuation). The Rouble is exchangeable only in Russia. Bureau de Change and ATMs exist in Moscow and St Pete's and currency can be withdrawn in either Euros or Roubles in most machines. Changing traveller cheques is cumbersome. Credit cards are not always accepted. Note: All optional tours purchased locally are payable in USD/EURO or Russian Roubles

#### health requirements

Diphtheria, Polio and Tetanus. If visiting Yekaterinburg and doing outdoor activities between May-August, a vaccination for tick-borne Encephalitis is recommended. Please check with your local health provider.

## how much?

- **ENTRANCE FEES**  
Entrance fees are not included in your tour.  
Please budget approximately USD \$30
- **TIPPING**  
In better restaurants tip 10% if you are pleased with the food/service. If you would like to express your thanks to your driver, local guide or tour leader, we would suggest approx USD\$25 - 30 per person. Though naturally tipping is an entirely personal gesture.
- Mineral water ( 500ml or 1L) RUB 30
- Can of coke RUB 30
- Beer (local brew Stella - 500ml approx) RUB 50-80
- Meal for 2 (entree, main, local beer) RUB 1500-2000

## things to bring

- Cottons for summer; coat, hat, gloves, scarf and thermals for winter!
- Pristine notes for exchange, bring US Dollars and Euros.
- Comfortable walking shoes for exploring
- A Russian phrasebook.
- A photocopy of your passport and credit card.
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs.
- A camera with a spare memory card for all your snaps!

## top experiences

- Stroll along Red Square, Moscow and spotting famous St Basil's and the Kremlin.
- Get steamy in a Russian banya (sauna) with veniki (birch twigs).
- Step inside a hidden world and see the secrets of the exciting Soviet Bunker
- Pay your respects to the wax-like Lenin at his mausoleum in Red Square.
- Sample a few shots of Russia's finest vodka - honey and pepper is recommended for the brave!





# mood for moscow: itinerary

## day 1 - moscow

Welcome to Russia and the start of your holiday! Arrival transfer from Moscow Domodedovo Airport to your hotel. Tonight at the welcome meeting you will have the opportunity to meet your fellow travellers and guide. Rest of evening free. Overnight - Moscow.

An arrival transfer is included for all those arriving on day 1 or those arriving earlier who have booked pre tour accommodation through on the go. Our transfer representatives wait 90 minutes from the time your flight has landed, with a visible on the go sign. As the transfer representative will not personally recognise you, please keep an eye out for the the on the go sign. It is important if you are delayed that you contact our Moscow or St Petersburg office (as detailed on your tour voucher) to advise that you have been delayed for whatever reason. If your luggage has been misplaced, head to 'Information' or your airline's desk prior to exiting Customs to find out how you may lodge a 'lost luggage' report beyond Customs, in 'Arrivals'. That way, you may rendezvous with your transfer representative in a timely fashion.

## day 2 - red square & st basil's

Moscow - breakfast. Moscow lies in the centre of what is known as European Russia. The border between Europe and Asia runs down the West Side of the Ural Mountains just 1300 km (805 miles) east of Moscow. Also to the east of Moscow is the mighty Volga River. Moscow's origins stretch back 850 years and despite a chequered history, Moscow is considered the heart of Russia in all ways. Moscow is a city where ancient Russia meets the Soviet Union and capitalism-boldly illustrated by the golden onion domes of the Kremlin's Orthodox Churches which peer out past Lenin's austere red granite mausoleum and over the massive GUM shopping complex-home to Barbie and Levi jeans. The city is the barometer and epicentre of the changes sweeping through Russia. The city's vitality, chaos and extremes are a direct result of the collapse of Communism and the efforts of its some 9 million citizens to reinvent their lives.

The Kremlin, a north-pointing triangle with 750 metre sides, is at Moscow's heart in every way. Red Square lies along its eastern side, the Moskva River flows to the south. From here, Moscow is best described as spreading out in four distinctive rings of development-each area having its own cluster of museums, elegant buildings, shops and

monasteries. Most of Moscow's sights are within the first circle-an area that is easily covered on foot. Good news - Moscow lacks steep hills!

Start the day with a guided walk of the Kitay-Gorod (one of the oldest parts of Moscow) and Lubyanka area. You'll see ancient churches and buildings and the outside of the FSB (successor to the infamous KGB) as you head to the highlight of your walk - the impressive Red Square. Experience the magic of Moscow as you approach the Resurrection gate - a beautiful red archway that leads to Red Square, from where you can catch your first glimpse of the wonderfully coloured fairytale castle of St Basil's. If open, you can view the somewhat eerie but healthy looking wax work like figure of the embalmed Lenin in his mausoleum. The rest of the day is free for you to explore. In the evening why not experience some of the many bars restaurants that Moscow has to offer. Overnight - Moscow.

NOTE: Please don't carry gigantic day - packs/ rucksacks for our visit to Red Square (Lenin's Mausoleum - if open) and the Moscow Kremlin tomorrow, as you'll need to store them before entry into the Kremlin and Lenin's Mausoleum on Red Square (which is closed during the opening times of the Mausoleum).

## day 3 - optional tours

Moscow - breakfast. There's plenty to keep you occupied today - why not get to know the city by wandering through the backstreets on the south banks of Moscow River, or drink in views of the Kremlin from a Moscow River boat cruise? If the thought of tackling Moscow by yourself doesn't appeal, you can join us on one of our optional group excursions below. Overnight - Moscow

**moscow kremlin** - In the morning we take a guided tour of the impressive Moscow Kremlin - home to the Russian president and previously a citadel of the Tsars and headquarters of the Soviet Union. The enclave contains many stunning sights, from the gold domed Cathedral of the Annunciation to the also gold topped Ivan the Great Bell Tower. Russians don't do things by halves and this is obvious when you view the 200 tonne Tsar Bell that sits beside the tower! Book and pay locally.

**inside a soviet bunker** - This afternoon we offer a guided tour of a Cold War Soviet bunker. Head 65 meters underground to explore a Stalinist-era bunker that up until recently was a top secret

symbol of Soviet Power. Cleverly hidden beneath an ordinary apartment building, on a busy street in the heart of Moscow, 18 floors below ground level, this mighty 75,000-square-foot facility was constructed in secret in the 1950's, to protect the select few against a US nuclear attack. Book in advance - visit our website or contact us for details.

## day 4 - moscow

Moscow - breakfast. Hotel checkout marks the end of the 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 through-out Russia vary greatly and cannot be compared to hotels of a similar standard in Western Europe or, and in particular, the United States.

Russia is suffering from a severe shortage of quality 3 star hotels. Tourism is relatively new to the land, resulting in demand for hotels far outweighing the supply. With demand being high, hoteliers have unified with massive price increases, yet continue to paint a rose coloured picture as to what constitutes '3 star' hotel.

On the go in Russia have taken great lengths to locate the best quality hotels at realistic prices in each of the cities we travel to. All the hotels we provide are clean, comfortable and functional, as well as being within close proximity to public transport, amenities and local sights.

## optional activites

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Ballet - St Pete's or Moscow   | from USD\$80 |
| Circus - Moscow                | from USD\$30 |
| Moscow by night                | from USD\$40 |
| Russian National Show - Moscow | from USD\$50 |

All optional excursions are subject to availability and may only be offered at specific times of the year. Tours purchased locally are payable in USD/ EURO or Russian Roubles CASH. All optional excursions will need to be booked/ paid in full on the evening of day one or morning of day two of your tour.

The go guide & information contained herein has been compiled with care and in good faith. It is as accurate an illustration as can be given with regard to the proposed itinerary. Circumstances beyond our control such as inclement weather or local conditions could force us to amend the proposed itinerary. This document does not form part of a contract between the client and on the go and their affiliates. Any costs shown may be subject to change but are an accurate reflection of costs at the time of writing this go guide. Please also be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and remain the responsibility of the traveller and not that of on the go.



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