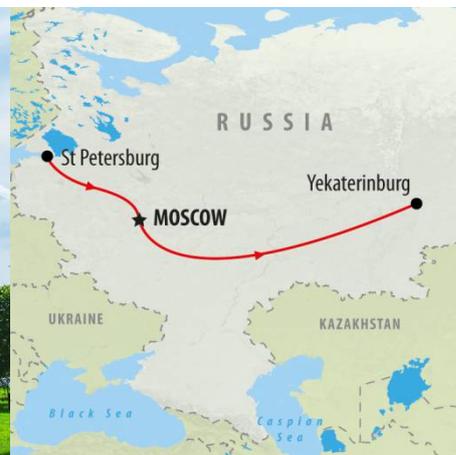


Route of the Romanovs

10 days | St Petersburg to Yekaterinburg



Follow in the footsteps of Russia's last ruling aristocrats - the Romanovs. Starting in St Petersburg - the city of the Tsars, head down to Russia's mighty capital city - Moscow and then ride the Trans-Siberian railway to Yekaterinburg, crossing the Ural Mountains, bound for Siberia.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Learn about the last days of the Romanovs in Yekaterinburg, visiting the sites where Tsar Nicolas II and his family were assassinated and buried
- Straddle two continents at the famous obelisk Europe/Asia border marker in Yekaterinburg
- Experience the Trans-Siberian railway on an overnight train journey from Moscow to Yekaterinburg
- Explore the beautiful city of St Petersburg, including the exquisite Church on Spilled Blood, Peter & Paul Fortress and Nevsky Prospekt
- Marvel at the dazzling array of art and exhibits in the world-famous Hermitage Museum, at the Winter Palace in St Petersburg

- Discover a lavish residence of the tsars on a day trip to Catherine Palace at Tsarkoe Selo (winter: mid-October to April) or Peterhof Palace and gardens (summer: May to mid-October)
- Take in the highlights of the capital on a walking tour, visiting Moscow's famous Red Square, home to the historic GUM Department Store, Lenin's Mausoleum and spectacular St Basil's Cathedral
- Take a guided tour of the Moscow Kremlin, Russia's political power house. Stroll around the grounds of this fortified complex, visit the Kremlin's cathedrals and see the mighty Tsar Bell

What's Included

- 8 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 2 dinners (including a Welcome Dinner on day 1)
- High speed train from St Petersburg to Moscow
- Overnight Trans-Siberian train from Moscow to Yekaterinburg in 4-berth sleeper cabin, including bed linen (upgrade to 2-berth cabin available upon request at time of booking)
- 8 nights 3-4 star hotels
- Escorted by an English speaking Russian tour guide on days 1 - 6
- Specialist Russian guides at local sights including Yekaterinburg
- Guided sightseeing - St Petersburg, Moscow and Yekaterinburg

- Airport arrival transfer on day 1 and departure transfer on day 10
- All relevant transfers and transportation on tour
- Moscow Metro travel card - 6 journeys

What's Not Included

- Entrance Fees: USD\$70-80pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa
- Laundry, drinks and items of a personal nature
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD\$3 - 5 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture

ITINERARY

Day 1 : St Petersburg

Tuesday. Welcome to Russia! You will be met upon arrival at St Petersburg Pulkovo Airport and transferred to your hotel for check-in. At 7pm this evening meet for dinner with the rest of your group at the hotel, followed by an informative welcome meeting. **Overnight - St Petersburg (D)**

Route of the Romanovs - 10 days

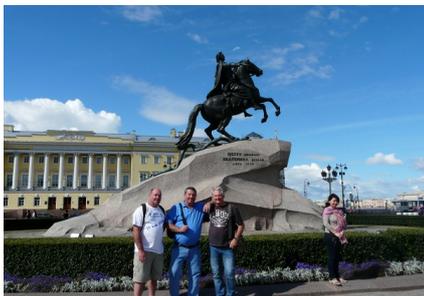
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Route of the Romanovs

Day 2 : City Tour & Hermitage Museum



We explore the beautiful city of St Petersburg on a guided tour today. Travelling by bus we drive along the main thoroughfare Nevsky Prospekt, passing the museum and university districts and stopping for photos at magnificent St Isaac's Cathedral and The Bronze Horseman. Then we explore the Peter and Paul Fortress and the ornate Peter and Paul Cathedral which houses the tombs of the Romanov monarchs. After a tasty lunch of traditional Russian cuisine we take a guided tour of the incredible Hermitage Museum in the beautiful Winter Palace - which houses one of the biggest and best art collections on earth.

Spend the rest of the day at leisure and this evening consider an optional excursion to the ballet or perhaps a Cossack show. All optional excursions are subject to availability and minimum numbers - book and pay locally.
Overnight - St Petersburg (B, L)

Day 3 : Peterhof or Catherine Palace

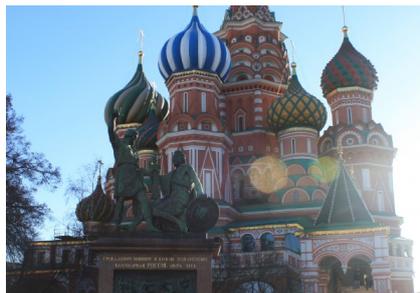


St Petersburg – Moscow. Today we see how the Russian tsars lived, heading out of the city to explore one of their lavish palaces. We visit Peterhof Palace and its beautiful gardens on the Gulf of Finland in the summer (May to mid October) and in the

winter we visit Catherine Palace at Tsarskoe Selo (or Pavlosk Palace if Catherine Palace is closed). Often referred to as the 'Russian Versailles', Peterhof is famous for its beautiful gardens which are a wonderland of greenery and flowers, sweeping vistas and ornate architectural decorations, with spectacular gold fountains. At Catherine's Palace it's the exterior and lavishly decorated interior that is the highlight and the famous Amber room is simply spectacular, bedecked in gold and amber.

Returning to the city centre we visit the beautiful Church On Spilled Blood and then there's free time to explore or shop for souvenirs before we board the 5pm high speed train to Moscow. Reaching the capital in just 4 hours, we transfer to our hotel for the night.
Overnight - Moscow (B)

Day 4 : Red Square & Kremlin



Taking the metro, we will make our way to the legendary Red Square for the start of our walking tour this morning. Here we will take in sights such as the epitome of Russian power – the Kremlin, Lenin's Mausoleum and the ritzy GUM department store. At the south end of the square, feast your eyes on the iconic St Basil's Cathedral. We also tour the mighty Kremlin, with a guided walk through the grounds to see numerous government buildings, gold-domed cathedrals and the Tsar Bell - which is the largest bell that never rang! If open, you can pay your respects to the grandfather of Communism at Lenin's mausoleum. Remainder of the day is at leisure.

During our stay in Moscow there will be the chance to join some of our optional evening excursions, such as a traditional Cossack

Show or a Moscow by Night coach tour and river cruise. Optional excursions are subject to availability and can be booked and paid for locally.
Overnight - Moscow (B, L)

Day 5 : Optional Bunker Tour



Today is free to spend at leisure in Moscow. The wonderful Izmailovo Market is just a short stroll from our hotel. This sprawling market lies behind the walls of an ancient kremlin and sells everything from matryoshka dolls to fur hats. There are also plenty of great galleries, museums and shops all within walking distance in the city centre.

Alternatively consider booking our optional Inside a Soviet Bunker Tour Add On and head 65 metres underground to explore the Underground Cold War Museum - a Stalinist-era Soviet Bunker that up until recently was a top secret symbol of Soviet Power.

Overnight - Moscow (B)

Day 6 : Free Time in Moscow

Moscow – Yekaterinburg. Our last day in Moscow is free for you to independently explore or stock up on Soviet souvenirs. As this tour runs in conjunction with other tours, today you will also bid farewell to those ending their tour in Moscow, and to your tour leader who has escorted you thus far. This afternoon transfer to the train station for an overnight train journey, travelling east bound along the famous Trans-Siberian railway line to Yekaterinburg. Our premium train departs at approximately 4.30pm.

Overnight - Trans-Siberian sleeper train (B)

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Day 7 : The Trans-Siberian Railway



Travelling on the Trans-Siberian continue the journey east bound across the beautiful Ural Mountains. Pulling into Yekaterinburg at approximately 8pm this evening, we meet our local guide and transfer to the hotel for dinner and relaxation. **Overnight - Yekaterinburg (D)**

Day 8 : Yekaterinburg



This morning we explore the historical centre of Yekaterinburg on a walking tour. The city was founded in 1723 to exploit the mineral riches of the surrounding Ural Mountains and Siberia but what really put Yekaterinburg on the map in the western world was the tragic event that occurred here in 1918. For it was in the cellar of a house, where the beautiful Church on the Blood now stands, that Tsar Nicholas Romanov II and his family were executed. Our walking tour takes us to this very church where you'll see a sculpture dedicated to the Tsar and his family, the area of their execution and a modest exhibition on their lives.

Our walking tour also takes in 1905 Revolution Square, the beautiful views from the embankment side and the Hill of Ascension, and the sorrowful Afghanistan memorial at the Red Army Square. We can also see the gorgeous villas of the

19th century gold merchants, statues of the founders of the city and Communist leaders.

After lunch we drive out of town to visit the famous obelisk Europe/Asia border marker where you can stand with a foot in each continent! Crossing the border-line we get a certificate and a glass of sparkling wine. Then we head to the Ganina Yama Monastery which is dedicated to the Romanov family and built on the site of the former mine, where their corpses were unceremoniously dumped by the Bolsheviks in 1918. The Romanovs' remains were then moved a few kilometres to a secret grave which is now a memorial, this is our last stop of the day. When the secret grave was discovered in 1978 the Romanov remains were moved to their final resting place at the beautiful SS Peter and Paul Cathedral at Peter and Paul Fortress, which we visit in St Petersburg. **Overnight - Yekaterinburg (B, L)**

Day 9 : Explore Yekaterinburg

Today is free for you to take advantage of all that Yekaterinburg has to offer as a wonderful outdoors destination. You will be able to choose from a range of exciting options that can be booked and paid for locally. In the summer you can try your hand at rafting, work up a sweat hiking or visit a Koptelova - a traditional Siberian village. While in the winter, you can take full advantage of the sub-zero temperatures with a thrilling dog-sledding ride or ice-fishing! Please contact us for further details. **Overnight - Yekaterinburg (B)**

Day 10 : Yekaterinburg

Thursday. Our tour comes to an end today after breakfast. After hotel check-out a departure transfer will take you to the railway station or airport for your onward travel.

Note: If you'd like to return to Moscow rather than depart from Yekaterinburg, we can arrange transportation aboard the train. Call us for rates.(B)

HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though

we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

Harbor Club Hotel

Well-located in St Petersburg, the Harbor Club Hotel can be found on a quiet street, yet only a short walk from the bustling city centre. Its guestrooms feature modern décor, with spacious ensuite bathrooms and modern amenities including air conditioning. You'll also find a shared lounge and bar, as well as an on-site restaurant serving tasty European cuisine. Here, guests can enjoy a continental or buffet breakfast or, if you'd prefer, there is also the option of dining in the comfort of your hotel room.



Izmailovo Delta Hotel

The 4 star Izmailovo Delta Hotel forms part of the huge Izmailovo Gamma Delta complex, which was built to accommodate guests and participants of the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow. Offering comfortable guest rooms with modern amenities, the complex also boasts 16 restaurants and bars serving Russian and international cuisine, a SPA, gym and swimming pool, in addition to shops, a bank and post office. Conveniently located with the Partizanskaya Metro Station just 350 yards away, it's a quick 10 minute metro ride to Red Square where you can take in the highlights of the capital. The hotel is also ideally located for souvenir shopping, with the famous Izmailovo Market just a short stroll away.



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Chekhov Hotel

Converted in 2009 from a nineteenth century mansion, the Chekhov hotel is a popular boutique hotel in the heart of Yekaterinburg. The comfortable rooms are modest in style with furnishings that hark back to the property's past with the modern staple of free WiFi. A buffet breakfast is served onsite with complimentary tea and pastries available throughout the day, perfect for refuelling between sightseeing. The hotel is well located close to the central square of the city and next to a local supermarket and plenty of restaurants.



PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
30 Mar	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
20 Apr	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
04 May	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
25 May	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
08 Jun	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,745
22 Jun	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,745
06 Jul	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
20 Jul	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
10 Aug	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
24 Aug	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
07 Sep	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
28 Sep	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
19 Oct	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615

PRICES / DATES INFO

If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same Gender on your tour, this can be arranged whilst travelling from St Petersburg to Moscow, however a single supplement will apply for touring arrangements in Yekaterinburg (days 6 - 10). Please contact us for the relevant cost.

PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
16 Jun	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,745
14 Jul	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
28 Jul	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
11 Aug	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
25 Aug	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
08 Sep	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
29 Sep	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
20 Oct	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615

PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
16 Feb	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615
09 Mar	CAD 2,795	CAD 3,615

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