



THE TRAVEL CLUB

Pre-Departure Itinerary

Russian River Cruise

From Moscow to St. Petersburg

Thursday, September 2 – Sunday, September 12, 2010

A vast and diverse land, Russia is difficult to embrace in a single visit—unless you travel deep into its heritage by sailing along the country's main artery—the **Volga River**. This new, innovative journey is one way to truly capture the essence of Russia's regal and pastoral beauty. Visit Moscow's famous **Red Square** and the **Kremlin**, explore ornate Eastern churches in rustic riverside villages, cruise through miles of unspoiled evergreen forests and admire the old imperial architecture of **St. Petersburg's Catherine Palace**. You'll sail in the vast White Lake and Lake Onega and enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Those with a penchant for fine art will revel in the visit to the **Hermitage Museum**, which houses paintings of Picasso, Rembrandt and da Vinci. Among the trip's most unique and memorable moments may well be an authentic Piroshki tea party, the open-air museum at Kizhi and a sampling of blini and caviar—all of which are sure to provide an invaluable glimpse into Russia's profound and thriving culture.

Includes

- Round-trip regularly scheduled flights from Boston to Moscow and St. Petersburg to Boston
- Nine nights' m/s Litvinov cruise in outside cabins, main deck
- Twenty six meals: nine breakfasts eight lunches, nine dinners
- Round-trip airport/hotel transfers
- Sightseeing and touring

Trip Planner

Day 1: Overnight Flight

Days 2-10: m/s Litvinov

Day 11: Return flight

Rates

\$3,289 per person double occupancy

Single cabins are limited and available on request only. Triple accommodations unavailable. Upgrade to upper deck cabins available on request for \$100 per person. Add \$290 port charges, taxes, fees, charges and surcharges. You will also be required to pay approximately \$63 USD taxes/fees in local currencies when exiting the country. Cancellation waiver and travel insurance is \$235 per person. Although not required, we recommend purchasing the waiver. Purchase must be made at the time of booking. Passport and Russian Visa required; Visa cost approximately \$180USD

DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1: Thursday, September 02, 2010 - Overnight Flight

Today from Boston board your overnight flight en route to Moscow, Russia.

Day 2: Friday, September 03, 2010 - Arrive Moscow, Russia - Ship Embarkation

This morning you arrive in Moscow, the grand capital of Russia and its most dynamic city. Transfer to the ship, your home for the next nine nights, where you will enjoy nightly entertainment and delicious local cuisine. This evening, spend time getting acquainted with your fellow passengers and the ship. **(D)**

Day 3: Saturday, September 04, 2010 - Moscow, Russia

Moscow is one of the largest cities in the world and home to more than nine million people. Enjoy a tour highlighting historic and famous landmarks including Red Square (*UNESCO*), St. Basil's Cathedral and Tverskaya Street, Moscow's grand boulevard, lined with shops and restaurants. The balance of your day is at leisure. **(B,L,D)**

Day 4: Sunday, September 05, 2010 - Moscow - Cruising

Take the Moscow Metro to visit the 15th century Kremlin. Known as the "Underground Palace," each Metro

station was designed by a Russian architect, sculptor or artist. At the incredible Kremlin (*UNESCO*), view the priceless collection of Imperial treasures in the Armory Museum, including the crown jewels. Set sail from Moscow through the countryside of Russia and enjoy nightly on-board entertainment such as a romance concert, a classical music concert, and even Russian dancing lessons! Tonight, enjoy a welcome cocktail reception, followed by the Captain's welcome dinner. **(B,L,D)**

Day 5: Monday, September 06, 2010 - Uglich

Approach the picturesque Golden Ring city of Uglich and soak in a lovely view of the magnificent architectural monuments from the deck. A walking tour features historic Transfiguration Cathedral, where a local choir brings the church's acoustics to life during a brief demonstration. Also see the blue-domed Church of Prince Dimitry on the Blood. Visit a local handicraft market to view regional crafts and learn about the Chaika watches. Continue along the mighty Volga River through unspoiled forests and rural villages. While sailing, enjoy a unique sampling of local cuisine such as blini and caviar. **(B,L,D)**

Day 6: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 - Goritsy

Enjoy breathtaking scenery as you sail south to Goritsy, a peaceful farming community. Later, sail in the vast White Lake, once known as the Tsar's fishing grounds. As you continue cruising, enjoy one of the many daily on-board discussions. **(B,L,D)**

Day 7: Wednesday, September 08, 2010 - Lake Onega - Kizhi Island

Cruise through picturesque Lake Onega, the second largest lake in Europe and one of the world's purest. This morning arrive at Kizhi Island, at the northern end of Lake Onega. Kizhi is renowned for its open-air museum. Visit these fascinating buildings of northern wood architecture including the remarkable Church of the Transfiguration. This spectacular church has 22 domes in three tiers and is the ultimate in Russian fairytale architecture. Continue on your cruise, enjoying an authentic Piroshki tea party and learning about local tea traditions. **(B,L,D)**

Day 8: Thursday, September 09, 2010 - Svir River - Green Stop on Mandroghi or Svirstroy

Cruise through the 119-mile Svir River which connects Lake Onega with Lake Ladoga. Pause for a few hours in a quaint riverside settlement where you may explore various buildings which represent country life in Russia. This evening, enjoy a festive Captain's dinner. **(B,L,D)**

Day 9: Friday, September 10, 2010 - St. Petersburg

Sail along the Neva River to St. Petersburg, Peter the Great's magnificent creation and one of the loveliest of European cities. Your morning tour of this fabled city of canals will take you to Palace Square, the historic heart of St. Petersburg (*UNESCO*), and along Nevsky Prospect, the city's main boulevard. See the monumental St. Isaac's Cathedral, Admiralty Tower and other great buildings that stand as monuments to the extravagant splendors of Imperial Russia. This afternoon, enjoy a guided tour through the world-famous Hermitage Museum, the crown jewel of St. Petersburg. No museum rivals the Hermitage in size, grandeur and holdings, including masterpieces by Da Vinci, Rembrandt, Rubens and Picasso. **(B,L,D)**

Day 10: Saturday, September 11, 2010 - St. Petersburg

Today, take an excursion to Tsarskoye Selo (formerly known as Pushkin) and tour the magnificent Catherine Palace. Marvel at the blazing robin's egg blue of the exterior and tour its distinctive rooms. After your visit, enjoy lunch at a nearby folk restaurant featuring delicious local cuisine. The remainder of your afternoon is free to soak in the best of St. Petersburg. **(B,L,D)**

Day 11: Sunday, September 12, 2010 - St. Petersburg - Disembark Ship - Tour Concludes

Your tour ends, leaving you with many pleasant memories of a wonderful vacation. **(B)**

PLEASE NOTE: *This pre-departure itinerary is designed to give you an idea of how this itinerary is structured. We reserve the right to make any changes to your final itinerary if deemed necessary, at any time prior to departure.*

PLEASE NOTE: This is not your final itinerary. You will receive final documents (itinerary, tickets (if applicable), etc.) approximately 2–3 weeks prior to departure. Although we try our best to ensure that information is accurate at the time of publication, we are not responsible for any error, omission, misprint or liability that results from the use (or misuse) of this information.