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|  | **Mos-Tour, LLC**  Office 2, 45/1, Bld.1, Prechistenskaya Emb.,  Moscow, Russia, 119 019  +7 495 120 4554 | +7 915 430 35 73  Current account: 40702978938001008973  Beneficiary Bank: SBERBANK,  Vavilov str. 19, Moscow, Russian Federation  SWIFT: SABRRUMM  [www.mos-tour.moscow](http://www.mos-tour.moscow)  [incoming@mos-tour.moscow](mailto:incoming@mos-tour.moscow) |

**Saint Petersburg**

**Classical Tour**

7 days / 6 nights

St. Petersburg is the youngest capital city of Europe. Indeed, the very first building - the House of Tsar Peter I is a little over 300 years old. Still, how many glorious deeds and accomplishments over these three centuries! Here, on the banks of the Neva, the Russian Empire was built, reached the peak of its power and suffered its collapse. Everyone who visits St. Petersburg can read the dramatic pages of history that are reflected in the granite of the Neva banks, in the architecture and marble of the palaces, in the gilding of the spires and domes of the cathedrals. The history of the feats and achievements of the Russian people, who not only managed to build a capital of a European power where it seemed impossible to everyone, but also succeeded in protecting the city.

**HOTELS:**

**St.Petersburg**: Grand Hotel “Oktiabrskaya” 4\* or similar

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| **Season** | | **Low season from 01.01 - 25.04 and from 01.10 - 30.12** | | **Medium & High season  from 26.04 - 14.05 and from 15.07 - 01.10** | | **Peak season 15.05-14.07** | |
| **USD ppax** | **Pax + FOC\*** | **TWN** | **SNGL suppl** | **TWN** | **SNGL suppl** | **TWN** | **SNGL suppl** |
| **15+1** | **$435** | **$125** | **$565** | **$180** | **Only for request** | |
| **20+1** | **$445** | **$575** |
| **25+1** | **$415** | **$545** |
| **30+2** | **$405** | **$535** |
| **35+2** | **$399** | **$525** |

**Note! Extra bed for child up to 12 years discount 50% ; Child up to 6 years without bed – free**

**\*FOC – free of charge**

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| **Season** | | **Low season from 01.01 - 25.04 and from 01.10 - 30.12** | | **Medium & High season  from 26.04 - 14.05 and from 15.07 - 01.10** | | **Peak season 15.05-14.07** | |
| **EUR ppax** | **Pax + FOC\*** | **TWN** | **SNGL suppl** | **TWN** | **SNGL suppl** | **TWN** | **SNGL suppl** |
| **15+1** | **375 €** | **105 €** | **485 €** | **155 €** | **Only for request** | |
| **20+1** | **379 €** | **495 €** |
| **25+1** | **355 €** | **469 €** |
| **30+2** | **345 €** | **459 €** |
| **35+2** | **335 €** | **450 €** |

**Extra bed for child up to 12 years discount 50% ; Child up to 6 years without bed – free**

**\*FOC – free of charge**

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| **INCLUDED** | **NOT INCLUDED** |
| * 6 nights’ accommodation: * St. Petersburg: Grand Hotel Oktiabrskaya 4\* or equivalent * All Breakfasts * Arrival / Departure transfer service from and to airport by minivan/ bus * Multilingual licensed guides for all sites on the program * Entrance fees according to the program | * Flights to Russia * Meals & drinks, except for breakfasts * Optional activities/upgrades/extras * Personal expenses * Any activities not mentioned in the tour description |

**ITINERARY**

**Day 1:**

Arrival in St.Petersburg, where the guide meets you at Pulkovo airport, transfer to your hotel. After checking in you will have the rest of the day/ evening at leisure.

**Day 2:**

Breakfast in the hotel. Meeting with a guide in the hotel lobby. **Sightseeing tour** of the most important sights of the city, including: Nevsky Prospekt - the main artery of the city, Kazan Cathedral, the Winter Palace and Palace Square, granite embankments of the Neva River and the architectural ensemble of the Spit of Vasilievsky Island, St. Isaac's Cathedral, Senate Square and the monument to Peter I - The Bronze Horseman, Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood, Square of Arts, Summer Garden, Field of Mars and St. Michael's Castle. (Duration 4 hours)

Time for lunch.

After lunch, you will visit the **Peter and Paul Fortress**. The day when Peter the Great started building a fortress named after his heavenly patrons on Hare Island, at the mouth of the Neva River, is considered the date of St. Petersburg’s foundation. Despite its formidable appearance, the fortress never took a direct part in war, but performed many other functions instead. It was here that the State Mint was located, the oldest enterprise in the city, which minted coins from the time of Peter the Great to the 1990s. Like the Tower of London and the Paris Bastille, the Peter and Paul Fortress could not escape the fate of a political prison, where not only rebels and revolutionaries, but also representatives of the royal family and world famous Russian writers were locked up. The first gas-dynamic laboratory in Russia, studies in which laid the foundations of Russian cosmonautics was located on the territory of the fortress as well.

You will also see the Cathedral of Peter and Paul, the first stone cathedral built in the city. Here, under the slabs of the cathedral, is the burial place of the Russian emperors, beginning with Peter the Great. For a long time, the bell tower of the cathedral remained the tallest building in Russia. The spire of the Peter and Paul Cathedral is decorated with a stylized image of a boat, which is a symbol of the city.

Return to the hotel. Free evening.

**Day 3:**

Breakfast at the hotel.

**Visit to the State Hermitage Museum**. One of the greatest palaces and art museums in the world, it contains thousands of priceless works of art from around the world, including masterpieces by Leonardo da Vinci, Titian, Rembrandt, Manet, Van Gogh, Matisse, Picasso and many other great artists, as well as ceramics, jewelry and archaeological artifacts, weapons, suits of armor, and much more. (2 hrs)

Time for lunch.

After lunch, a visit to the Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ on the Spilled Blood, better known as **the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood.** One of the pearls of St. Petersburg, a very beautiful structure, with a very Russian history full of drama and feats of ordinary people, from the time of construction to the present day. Built on the site of the assassination of Russian Tsar Alexander II, it was erected on the orders of his son Alexander III with money donated all over the country. That is why its facade is decorated with coats of arms of all then Russian provinces. The construction lasted 24 years. You will also be amazed by the rich interior, first of all, the largest mosaic ensemble in Europe, which took more than 10 years to put together across an area of ​​over 7000 square meters.

Return to the hotel. Free evening.

**Day 4:**

Breakfast in the hotel. A visit to one of the suburban imperial residences – **the Peterhof Museum-Reserve**. Peter the Great built a small summer palace here, the Monplaisir, which means “my pleasure”, while his daughter, Empress Elizabeth, turned the small estate into a “Russian Versailles”. You will visit the Grand Palace and the famous Upper and Lower Parks. Fountains are the main symbol of the summer imperial residence. The uniqueness of the Peterhof fountains lies in the engineering solution of the water supply that involves no special technical devices and pumps, all the fountains and numerous cascades are capacitated only through the natural flow of water.

The regular Lower Park with the geometric harmony of the terraces and alleys leading from the Palace to the Gulf of Finland, with pavilions in the aery baroque style, and, above all, the splendor of the golden sculptures of the Grand Cascade, make Peterhof one of the greatest landscape parks in the world.

**As an optional add-on** in the summertime, a mini-cruise to / from Peterhof by Meteor, a high-speed hydrofoil boat that takes tourists from the city center (pier near the Hermitage) to the pier of the Lower Park of Peterhof in 35 minutes, is also possible.

Return to the hotel. Free evening.

**Day 5: Saint Petersburg**

On this day we will visit two museums in the cities of **Pushkin** and the **Pavlovsk** respectively. We will begin our tour in Tsarskoye Selo where one of the most luxurious imperial residences is located. You will enjoy the Baroque architecture and brocade design of the endless palace chambers of the Catherine Palace. Touch the secret of the Amber Room that has not been revealed to this day. You can also walk along the alleys and paths of the imperial park with its beautiful old pavilions, recognized as masterpieces of park art. We will then have lunch at the “Podvorye” (Courtyard) restaurant, where you get to taste Russian cuisine and enjoy a folklore program at the same time.

After lunch, the tour goes on to Pavlovsk, the home residence of Emperor Paul and his family. Pavlovsk was created in the heyday of Russian classicism of the late 1700s, and is a monument of cultural heritage, which is under the protection of UNESCO.

**Optional**: visit to the Pavlovsk Palace.

Return to the hotel. Free evening.

**Day 6: Saint Petersburg**

Breakfast in the hotel.

A day for relaxation and shopping. Shopping malls of the Northern capital are available in numbers: the Gallery, Stockman, Gostiny Dvor and the Passage etc.

**Optional:** Tourists will additionally be offered an excursion to the Grand Maket Russia (scale model of different Russian regions).

**Day 7: Saint Petersburg**

Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out, transfer to the airport with a member of our staff.