

Holidays Beckon presents...

# Imperial Russia

*featuring Moscow & St Petersburg*

October 2 – 9, 2020

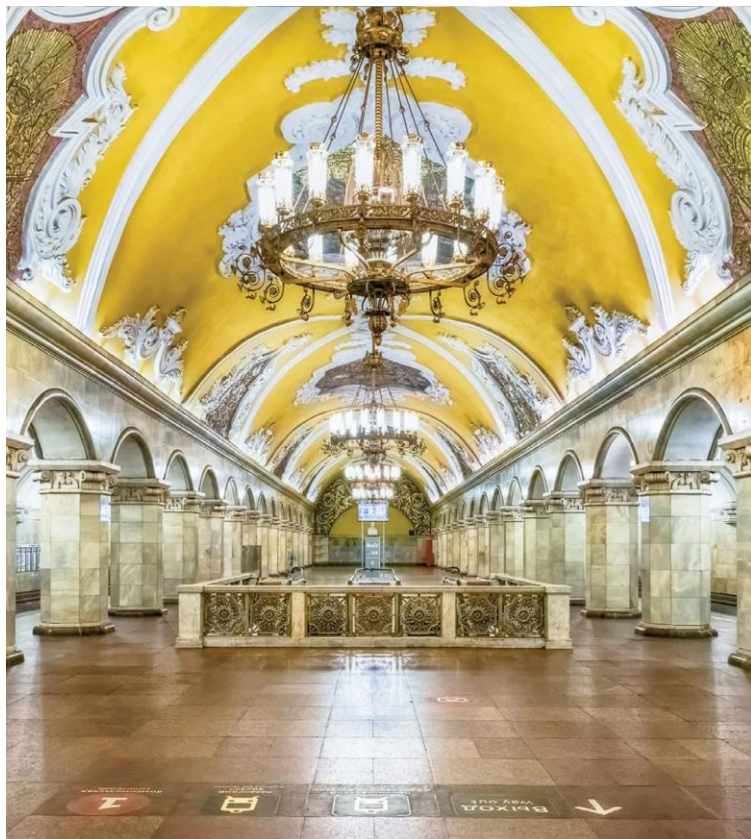


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**HOLIDAYS  
BECKON**





**8 Days • 11 Meals:**

7 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 3 Dinners

**HIGHLIGHTS...** Moscow Metro, The Kremlin and the Armoury Museum, Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral, Walking Food Tour, Choice on Tour, High-Speed Train, St. Petersburg, Traditional Georgian Dinner, Church of the Saviour on Spilled Blood, Hermitage Museum, Catherine Palace, Vintage Soviet Car Ride

#### ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Days 1 – 5 Moscow Marriott Grand Hotel , Moscow

Days 6 – 9 Solo Sokos Palace Bridge Hotel, St. Petersburg

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

**Collette's Flagship:** Collette's tours open the door to a world of amazing destinations. Marvel at must-see sights, sample regional cuisine, stay in centrally located hotels and connect with new and captivating cultures. These itineraries offer an inspiring and easy way to experience the world, where an expert guide takes care of all the details.

**Day 1: Friday, October 2, 2020 Moscow, Russia - Tour Begins** Welcome to Moscow, Russia's glamorous capital city where beguiling architecture, complex history, and posh culture thrive. Let the energy of this intriguing city wrap around you and inspire your curiosity.

**Day 2: Saturday, October 3, 2020 Moscow Your journey through Moscow begins with a short ride on the Metro**, Russia's incredibly elegant and efficient public transit system. With lavish mosaics, ornate stained glass and stunning architecture, each stop on the Metro is like a mini-museum with its own unique allure. **Arrive at the Kremlin (UNESCO)**, the beating heart of Moscow and the seat of power in Russia. Home to a stunning collection of wealth from eras when tsars reigned supreme, this fortress complex is a can't-miss glimpse into Russian history. **Enjoy a guided visit of the Armoury Museum**, home to a priceless collection of Imperial crown jewels, weaponry, and Faberge eggs. Continue on your exploration of the Kremlin with a visit to the Assumption Cathedral\*, designed in the ornate Old Russian style. In the bustling Red Square of Moscow\*\*, pause to admire the iconic domes of Saint Basil's Cathedral. Next, visit GUM, the lavish department store at the heart of the city. Later, a local expert reveals a bit about life "behind the Iron Curtain," during an informative lecture about Soviet society. This evening, enjoy a traditional Russian dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

**Day 3: Sunday, October 4, 2020 Moscow** This morning, **it's your choice!** Choose between a themed tour, "Back to the USSR," where you'll gain insight into the tensions between the U.S. and former Soviet Union and the great "Space Race" **-OR-** take a guided tour of the Tretyakov Gallery, one of the most significant art museums in Russia with over 100,000 artistic works. Next, **an epicurean adventure awaits!** Get a taste of local flavour as you stroll the streets with a local guide and savour authentic dishes found on the tables of many Russian families. See Moscow's most iconic landmarks from a new point of view as you float along the picturesque waters of the Moscow River. The evening is yours to soak in the splendors of your final night in Moscow. (B, L)

**Day 4: Monday, October 5, 2020 Moscow - St. Petersburg** Enjoy a leisurely morning before hopping aboard a high-speed train to St. Petersburg, the "Venice of the North" and Russia's Imperial capital. Spend the remainder of the day independently exploring this thriving hub for art, history and culture as you wish. Tonight, **delight in traditional Georgian cuisine** at a favourite local restaurant. Savour the exotic comfort food and drink of a region that has been producing wine for over 8,000 years. (B, D)



## Per Person Rates\*:

**Double** ~~\$3,169~~ **\$2,969**; **Single** ~~\$3,819~~ **\$3,619**; **Triple** ~~\$3,139~~ **\$2,939**

**Included in Price:** Hotel Transfers

**Not included in price:** Round Trip Air

\* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change. \$200 per person discount will be applicable for all bookings made and deposited before 2 April 2020

### Day 5: Tuesday, October 6, 2020 St. Petersburg

Experience the Imperial Russia of your dreams, full of regal beauty and iconic sights. **A panoramic tour of St. Petersburg brings this historic city to life.** See St. Isaac's Cathedral, the Peter and Paul Fortress, and the famed Palace Square. Go inside the Church of the Saviour on Spilled Blood, St. Petersburg's most elaborate church. After getting acquainted with this vibrant city, you can opt to spend the remainder of your day at leisure or take an optional tour of the meticulously landscaped grounds and soaring fountains of the Peterhof Grand Palace\*\*\*, better known as the "Russian Versailles." (B)

### Day 6: Wednesday, October 7, 2020 St. Petersburg

Welcome to the Winter Palace, St. Petersburg's most iconic building and the former home of Russian tsars. Built for Peter the Great, this Russian wonder is a true glimpse into the glory of Russian aristocracy. Enter the breathtaking green and white complex and **make your way to the incredible Hermitage Museum for a guided tour.** Second in size only to the Louvre, the Hermitage is

home to the largest collection of paintings in the world, with works from the likes of Monet and Matisse. (B)

**Day 7: Thursday, October 8, 2020 St. Petersburg** Take a step back in time with a **tour of the magnificent Catherine Palace.** Built in 1717, the Rococo palace was once the opulent summer home of Russian tsars. It's said the building was torn down and rebuilt six times to satisfy the grand visions of Peter the Great's daughter, Elizabeth. Enjoy exclusive early access here and marvel at the robin's egg blue exterior and the lavish décor of the interior rooms. Next, we'll see St. Petersburg from a different perspective - from the interior of a vintage Soviet car! Feel as if you've entered a different era as you ride through the city in luxury. Tonight, get one final taste of Russian culture and cuisine during a farewell dinner and traditional folk show. (B, D)

**Day 8: Friday, October 9, 2020 St. Petersburg - Tour Ends** Today, say *do-svidaniya* (goodbye for now) to Russia as your Imperial journey comes to a close. (B)

## \$95 TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN

Sometimes life happens and your carefully made plans have to be cancelled. That's why we created our industry-leading Travel Protection Plan. It offers you a full refund of your money (less the purchase price of the plan) if you have to cancel for any reason, up to 24 hours before departure. This is just one of the ways we are with you at every step of the journey—even before it begins.

## PLEASE NOTE:

### **PASSPORT REQUIREMENTS**

Passports are required at your own expense for travel outside of Australia. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity beyond the return date from the destination. Some countries require a visa in addition to a valid passport for entry into the country. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate embassy or consulate for specific information and entry requirements.

**IMPORTANT:** We recommend that our guests take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visa. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

**Our air passengers should arrive into Moscow (MOW) airport and depart from St. Petersburg (LED) airport.**

**A visa is required for travel to Russia.** It is the passenger's responsibility to obtain any required visa and/or documents prior to departure. Please allow a minimum of approximately 6 weeks for processing your Russian visa. All guests should cheque with the appropriate foreign consulate for additional entry requirements. All document fees are at the expense of the traveller. Reservations made within 60 days of departure will be on a request basis and may require visa services to be expedited. Additional fees may apply.

The cost for the visa is \$135 AUD. Rates are approximate and are subject to change.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

\*When the Assumption Cathedral is not available, we will visit either the Cathedral of the Annunciation or the Cathedral of the Archangel.

\*\*Red Square may be closed/blocked at any time.

\*\*\*During the months that the Peterhof fountains are unavailable, a tour of the palace will be available with this option.

To truly experience the program and destination, you need to be able to participate in physical activities such as longer walking tours, walking over uneven terrain, climbing stairs and periods of standing. Some of the touring days may be longer, with select included activities occurring later in the evening.

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### Available Options

Personalise your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

*Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change.*

Children under the age of 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

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#### St. Petersburg



##### Peterhof

**\$65 AUD**

Known as the “Russian Versailles,” Peterhof is a stunning Imperial Estate, and one of the best examples of grandiose and regal excess in the world. The grounds, gardens and palace courts were designed on the orders of Peter the Great to be his summer palace on the shores of the Baltic Sea. The entire complex is listed today as a UNESCO World Heritage site. With a private guide, visit the beautiful Upper and Lower Gardens, walk down the steps of the magnificent Grand Cascade, and explore the historic pavilions that dot the grounds of this impressive estate. Exploring the expansive gardens at Peterhof is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience and a highlight of any trip to St. Petersburg. Option is only available between 27 April – 13 October *Duration: Approximately 4 hours.* Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is required. Transport is included.

##### A Night at the Russian Ballet

**\$206 AUD**

When the curtains rise, you’ll be dazzled by this classical Russian ballet performance. A trademark of Russian culture, the art dates back nearly 300 years in St. Petersburg. It’s no surprise that three of the top five ballets in the world come from Russia, including “Swan Lake,” “The Nutcracker,” and “Romeo and Juliet.” Ballet dancers have always been revered in this country, and lessons were once reserved for aristocrats. Feel like royalty as you let the elegant music and movements take your breath away on this quintessential Russian evening. *Duration: Approximately 2.5 hours.* Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is required. Transport is included.



**For Reservations Contact:** Philip Clapé  
Holidays Beckon  
1300 241 705  
pc@holidaysbeckon.com.au

**A deposit of \$250 per person is due upon reservation. Single accommodations are limited and available only on a first come first served basis. Reservations made after the date of March 26, 2020 are based upon availability. Final payment due by August 03, 2020.**

### YOUR INFORMATION:

Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) **as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.**

**IMPORTANT:** In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel <passport/driver's license> including middle names or suffixes <Jr, Sr>.

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: ( ) Male ( ) Female

Date of Birth: month \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: (dd/mm/yy) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Issuance: (dd/mm/yy) \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Country of Issuance: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

**Should you become ill or injured, whom should we contact (not travelling with you):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**ROOMING WITH:** ☐ Check if address is the same as Passenger #1

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER PLAN:** ( ) Yes, I wish to purchase waiver plan \$95 ( ) No, I decline

If you choose not to purchase Waiver Plan, you will incur penalties for changes and cancellations. Waiver Plan is due with first deposit. The Waiver Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's travelling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels.

**ON TOUR ACTIVITIES: Please choose one of the following on tour activities**

- ( ) Tour of State Tretyakov Gallery
- ( ) Back to the USSR

**ON TOUR ACTIVITIES: Please choose one of the following on tour activities**

- ( ) Peterhof – 65AUD
- ( ) A Night at the Russian Ballet – 206AUD