

MOSCOW-SERGIEV POSAD-ROSTOV VELIKIY-YAROSLAVL-KOSTROMA- MOSCOW

6 days/5 nights

1st day

- A guide will meet you at the airport.
 - Transfer to the hotel accommodation. Check-in starts from 2pm and check-out is at 12:00.
 - Moscow sightseeing tour (bus). You will see all the major sights of the capital of Russia; such as a panoramic view of the city from the Vorobiev Hills, Bagration bridge with lots of shops, you will also see Moscow City's new skyscraper business district (from the window of the bus), the memorial complex of Poklonnaya Gora as well as all the major squares and streets of the city.
 - Arrive back at the hotel. Then you'll have some free time.
- (A guide and transport will be with you for 7 hours in total).

2nd day

- Breakfast at the hotel. A guide will meet you in the hotel lobby.
 - Transfer to Sergiev Posad. On the way to the city guide will give you all the important information about the city, all legends and interesting facts.
 - You will arrive to Sergiev Posad at approximately 10 am.
- Sergiev Posad is a town which encompasses a sacred place – Trinity-Sergius Lavra. Lavra was founded in 1337 by Ven. Sergy Radonezhsky. You will visit Trinity-Sergius Lavra and see Troitsky Cathedral with magnificent icons made by Andrey Rublev, Uspensky Cathedral and refectory with baroque interior.
- For an additional fee:** Master class in decorative painting on wood. You can paint on matreshka (Russian nesting dolls) or any other wooden toy you like and take it home as a souvenir. (Master class costs 7 euro per person).
- Around the Trinity-Sergius Lavra you can also find lots of souvenir shops.
 - Transfer to Rostov Velikiy.
 - Excursion to the museum "Rostov Kremlin" - you will walk around the beautiful Rostov Kremlin, go to the Metropolitan garden and Apothecary Garden, visit the Church of the Resurrection and St. John the Evangelist as well as Enamel Museum.
 - Transfer to Yaroslavl.
 - Arrive at the hotel at approximately 6 pm
 - Free time.
- (A guide and transport will be with you for 14 hours in total).

3d day

- **Breakfast at the hotel.**
 - **Transfer to Kostroma approximately at 10.00 am.**
- You will see the beautiful city of Kostroma. The city is as old as Moscow. The excursion will start with **Museum-Reserve " Ipatiev Monastery "**. The monastery was founded in XIV century and was one of the main ones in Russia. Mikhail Romanov had his coronation here in 1613. He was the first tsar of the dynasty which used to rule Russia for more then 300 years.
- **City observation excursion** – old Shopping malls, Fire Tower, Church of the Resurrection - on - Debra, embankment of river Volga.
 - **Excursion to the Museum of Wooden Architecture.** Like in a real traditional Russian village you will see and explore huts, churches, mills, barns etc. Everything is made of wood, everything is original, delivered to the museum from many different places of the Kostroma region. Guide will tell about how people used to live, work and celebrate.
 - Transfer to Yaroslavl.
 - Free time.
- (A transport will be with you for 10 hours in total).

4th day

- **Breakfast at the hotel.** Check out the hotel.
 - **City observation excursion** - you will see the most beautiful and famous places of the city such as the Volkovsky theatre, Волковский театр, Church of Elijah the Prophet, the chapel of Alexander Nevsky, the monument to Yaroslav the Wise , the Church of the Epiphany. You will see the historical centre of Yaroslavl, embankment of Volga river and the famous Strelka , where the two rivers merge - Kotorosl and Volga
 - Excursion to the **Holy Transfiguration Monastery** where you will visit the exhibition "**Ancient Russian Art**".
- For an additional fee:** If you would like you can climb the monastery belfry to enjoy the gorgeous view of the city.
- For an additional fee:** visit the Residence of Maslenitsa in Yaroslavl. Residence is a part of the unique wooden town, which was reconstructed using 1913 blueprints. The residence was built for tsar Nikolay II and his family.

Outside the museum there are entertaining spots where you can play Russian traditional outdoor games. Inside the museum you can take the unique opportunity and see the Empress' office, her walk-in closet full of dresses, pantry with gifts and supplies stored there from all corners of the earth, and, of course, the Throne Room .

Please verify price while booking

- 3 pm - Transfer back to Moscow.

~ **8 – 9 pm** – Arrive back in Moscow. Accommodation at the hotel.

- Free time.

(A transport will be with you for 14 hours in total).

5th day (walking day)

- **Breakfast at the hotel.** A guide will meet you in the hotel lobby.

- Transfer to the metro station Okhotny Ryad.

- **Walking excursion through the centre of Moscow:** Red Square: Where you will see one of the worlds most exclusive shopping centres: we are of course talking about the world famous GUM; Also - Vasilievsky Spusk, ultimate Pokrovsky Cathedral which is also known as St Basil's Cathedral; Teatralnaya (theatre) Square; Okhotny Ryad; After a short walk we will visit the magnificent Cathedral of Christ the Saviour.

For an additional fee: climb the stairs to the observation platform of the Cathedral of Christ the Saviour, to enjoy the beautiful views of Moscow city centre.

- **Excursion to the Moscow Kremlin** (territory + cathedral): the Sobornaya square is the central square of the Moscow Kremlin where all of its streets used to converge in the 15th century. Cathedral Square is famous as the site of solemn coronation and funeral processions of all the Russian tsars, patriarchs, and Grand Dukes of Moscow. Even today, the square is used in the inauguration ceremony of the President of Russia. You will see the Assumption Cathedral, Archangel's Cathedral, Annunciation Cathedral, bell tower of Ivan the Great (also known as Ivan the Terrible) and you will see famous Tsar-Bell and Tsar-Cannon.

For an additional fee: Excursion to the Armoury Museum of Moscow Kremlin which has a fantastic collection of priceless and luxurious items include Alexey Romanov's 17th century throne covered with a mosaic of turquoises and 900 diamonds and the famous Faberge eggs. (we recommend that you verify the price while booking).

-Walk to the **Tretiakovskaya Gallery** through beautiful Zamoskvoretsky bridge.

- **Excursion to the Tretiakovskaya Gallery** which was founded in 1865 by a famous merchant called Pavel Tretiakov. The Gallery contains one of the biggest collections of Russian drawings and paintings in the world. You will have a tour around the museum so you can see the artworks of many great Russian artists.

- Travel back to your hotel by yourself.

6th day

- **Breakfast at the hotel.** Check out the hotel. A guide will meet you in the hotel lobby.

- Transfer to the place where the excursion starts..

- **Excursion on the Moscow metro called "The Underground Castles".** You will visit the most beautiful and famous stations of Moscow metro. Some of them look like real castles (hence the name of the tour). Stations such as Komsomolskaya-Koltsevaya show all the major breakthroughs of the soviet people. At the Novoslobodskaya metro station you will see a panoply of mosaics and gorgeous back-lit stained glass on the walls.; Novokuznetskaya station is best known for its 32 stained glass panels, which are the work of Latvian artists E. Veylandan, E. Krests, and M. Ryskin. Each panel, surrounded by an elaborate brass border, is set into one of the station's pillars and illuminated from within. Both the pillars and the pointed arches between them are clad in pink Ural marble and edged with brass moldings. At the end of the platform is a beautiful mosaic by Pavel Korin entitled "Peace Throughout the World." The station Ploschad Revolutsii opened in 1938. The station features red and yellow marble arches. The spaces between the arches are partially filled by decorative ventilation grilles and ceiling tracery. Each arch is flanked by a pair of bronze sculptures depicting the people of the Soviet Union. There are a total of 76 sculptures in the station.

You will see the whole city that lies beneath the main city above – non of the Moscow metro stations are alike; they are all original works of art!

- **Excursion to the Stary Arbat street:** you will see the memorial of the famous Russian poet Aleksander Pushkin and his wife Natalia Goncharova, «The house of the third millennium» of architect Melnikov situated on Krivoarbatsky street. This house is an outstanding example of constructivism. Also you will see a beautiful fountain called “ The Golden Turandot” at the Vakhtangov theatre and «Spaso-hause» - which used to be the house of the merchant Vtorov. Currently this is the residence of the US ambassador.

- If you would like to buy some souvenirs, Arbat street is a perfect place.

- Transfer to the airport.

(A guide and transport will be with you for 7 hours in total).

Price of the tour per person. (Prices are in euro):

Hotel	Group of 4 people	Group of 6 people	Group of 10 people	Group of 15 people	Extra payment for an extra days stay in the hotel
Hotel 3* in Moscow and Yaroslavl	830	650	485	380	95
Hotel 4* in Moscow and Yaroslavl	865	680	510	420	110

Included:

- Stay in the chosen hotel in Moscow for 3 nights. 1 Stay in the chosen hotel in Yaroslavl for 2 nights. Check-out time 12.00. Check-in time 2pm.;
- 5 buffet breakfasts;
- Guide/translator during all excursions;
- Transport: according to the tour programme (group 2-6 people by car or minivan, group of 10-15 people by minibus);
- tickets to the museums as stated in the tour programme.

Not included:

- all the additional services (please check the prices for all the additional services while booking!);
- A Typical meal for one person costs approximately 8 to 9 euro;
- For extra usage of the transport:
in Moscow: 12 euro per hour for the minibus (12-18 seats in the saloon, for 4+1 hours minimum), 9 euro per hour for a minivan (3-8 seats, 3+1 hours minimum);
- Guide escort extra hours – 20 euro per hour;
- 2 hour boat ride on the river Moscow costs 8-9 euro per person (with no guide, navigation period is from May to October).
- visit the «Kostroma» show - (only in summertime). Link to the website of the show: <http://www.nationalrussianshow.ru/>;
- visit the «Izmailovo Kremlin» - link to the website: <http://www.kremlin-izmailovo.com/>;
- visit an exclusive show «Amazing Russia», link to the website- <http://amazing-russia.com> Tickets need to be ordered in advance – please check the price!!!!
- tickets to one of the Moscow circuses cost approximately from 9 to 50 euro per person.
- Mater class of painting or pottery-making in Suzdal. You can keep what you make as a souvenir. The master class costs 5-6 euro per person.

WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU ORDER ALL THE ADDITIONAL SERVICES AS WELL AS LUNCHES AND DINNERS IN ADVANCE.

Attention!

In spring and summer you can visit various Moscow parks for free. Such as Gorky park, Hermitage garden, Neskuchny garden, VDNKH, Sokolniky park, Tsaritsyno park (additional charge for museum and castles within the parks).

We reserve the right to make minor changes to the tour programme according to the traffic and other unexpected circumstances.