

THE FORMIDABLE DOMINION

Travel guide for Russia





KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Culture & Cuisine

Best time

Experience

Souvenirs recommendation

Russia travel tips

Itinerary

CULTURE & CUISINE

Russia boasts of jaw-dropping cultural, natural and historical attractions to draw you away from the hectic life. The city offers perfect spots to hang out like the Gorky Park and the Alexander Garden. However, the facts and figures of spacious Russia might be hard to absorb in just one day.





CULTURE

Russian culture has a long and rich history, steeped in literature, ballet, art, and classical music. While outsiders may see the country as drab, Russia has a very visual cultural past, from its colorful folk costumes to its ornate religious symbols.



CUISINE

Russia may not be the first to come to mind when you think of a food destination, but the country has plenty of delicious traditional dishes to try. Visitors of Russia are often surprised by the variety and flavors of Russian cuisine, which is influenced by Russia's connection to Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. The most classic Russian recipes are made of veggies and wheat, such as soups, porridges, and stuffed dough.



UKHA

A seafood fest

If you like seafood, try Ukha, a traditional fish soup made with a clear broth. Many different kinds of fish are used to make this soup, including bream, wels catfish, northern pike, and ruffe.



PIROZHKI

Pocket Snack

you may have already heard of pirozhki. These little baked or fried puff pastries are packed full of potatoes, meat, cabbage, or cheese. The stuffed pockets are popular all-around Russia and Ukraine.



IKRA

Caviar Everywhere

Caviar or ikra, is something to get worked up about in Russia. Briny and sharp, it is often served on dark, crusty bread or with blini, which is like the Russian version of a pancake or a crepe.



PASHKA

Sweetened cheesecake

Pashka is a festive dessert that is commonly made around Easter in Eastern Orthodox countries. This sweetened cheesecake dessert is decorated with Christian symbols as a part of the holidays' feast.

BEST TIME



North Caucasian

Summer

The best time to visit the Caucasus is either side of summer if you're travelling in the south with milder temperatures in the north, particularly on higher ground, making hanging glaciers in North Ossetia a permanent fixture.

Southern Russia

July or September

The best time for a vacation in southern Russia is early July or September. In July, the weather is not as unpredictable as in May-June and slightly cooler than the sizzling August. Late summer is also peak tourist time, which can cause further inconvenience.

Central Russia

Late spring - early June

The best time to visit Moscow weather-wise is late spring - early June. This is the period when weather is the most convenient for long hours of sightseeing.

The Russian Far East

(May to September)

The far east of Russia is best visited between the months of May and September. Explore the Kamchatka Peninsula in May and early June to make the most of the peak bird watching season and in July see brown bears feasting on salmon, smoking volcanoes and the landscape dotted with delicate summer wild flowers

Siberia

(March)

the best time to visit Siberia is in March when the temperature varies from -5 to -25 C. The real gem and Blue Eye of Siberia is Lake Baikal which is one of the most famous Russian destinations.

Ural

Late June to early August

Based on the tourism score, the best time of year to visit Ural for warm-weather activities is from late June to early August.

Northwestern Russia

Mid-June to September

The coldest month obviously is January with an average temperature at -6°C (22°F). The wettest months are October & November. The best time to visit St. Petersburg weather-wise is late spring - early June.

Kaliningrad Oblast

July

The best time to visit Kaliningrad in Russia is from May until September, when you will have a soft or pleasant temperature and limited till little rainfall.

Volga

Late June to mid-August

The best time of year to visit Volga for general outdoor tourist activities is from late June to mid August, with a peak score in the last week of July.

EXPERIENCE

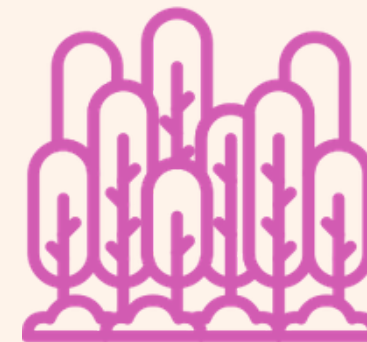
Russia – The world's largest country offers it all, from historic cities and idyllic countryside to train rides. Every moment gives you an opportunity to discover brand new views.



History



Train



Natural



Culture



Cruise



Art

Central Russia - Moscow



THE KREMLIN

As throughout its history, the Kremlin remains the heart of the city. It is the symbol of both Russian and (for a time) Soviet power and authority, and it has served as the official residence of the president of the Russian Federation since 1991. The Kremlin and Red Square were added to UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1990.



BOLSHOI THEATRE

An evening at the Bolshoi is still one of Moscow's most romantic and entertaining options for a night on the town. The glittering six-tier auditorium has an electric atmosphere, evoking over 240 years of premier music and dance. Both the ballet and opera companies perform a range of Russian and foreign works here.



MOSCOW METRO

The Moscow metro is the easiest, quickest and cheapest way of getting around Moscow. Many of the elegant stations are marble-faced, frescoed, gilded works of art. The trains are generally reliable; you will rarely wait on the platform for more than three minutes. Nonetheless, they get packed during rush hours.

Central Russia - The Golden Ring Tour



YAROSLAVL

Yaroslavl is the oldest and most attractive city on the Volga River. Yaroslavl proudly displays its past as an important commercial center with 17th-century merchant houses and onion-domed churches, and large neoclassical buildings lining the masterfully designed streets.



KOSTROMA

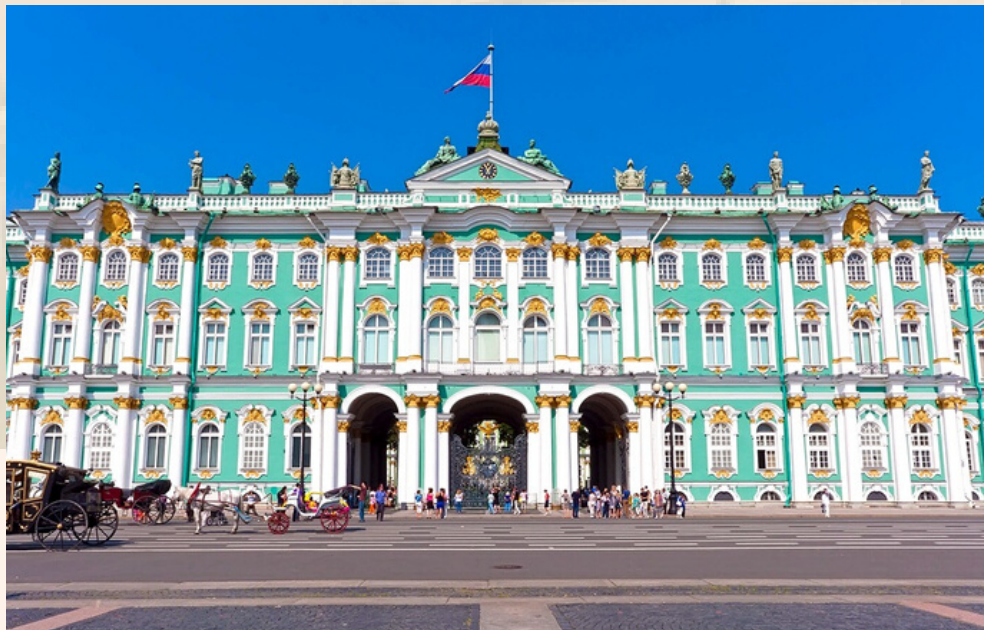
Enjoying a scenic spot at the confluence of the Volga and Kostroma rivers, the modest-sized city of Kostroma was once an important market town. Kostroma once served as the preferred retreat for Moscow-based royalty during times of attack on the city.



SUZDAL

The utterly gorgeous town of Suzdal is surrounded by flower-filled meadows and gentle hills and home to a surprising number of churches, cathedrals, and monasteries. Because of the long absence of a railway station, Suzdal retained many of the traditional buildings and wooden cottages including the unhurried way of life.

Northwestern Russia - Saint Petersburg



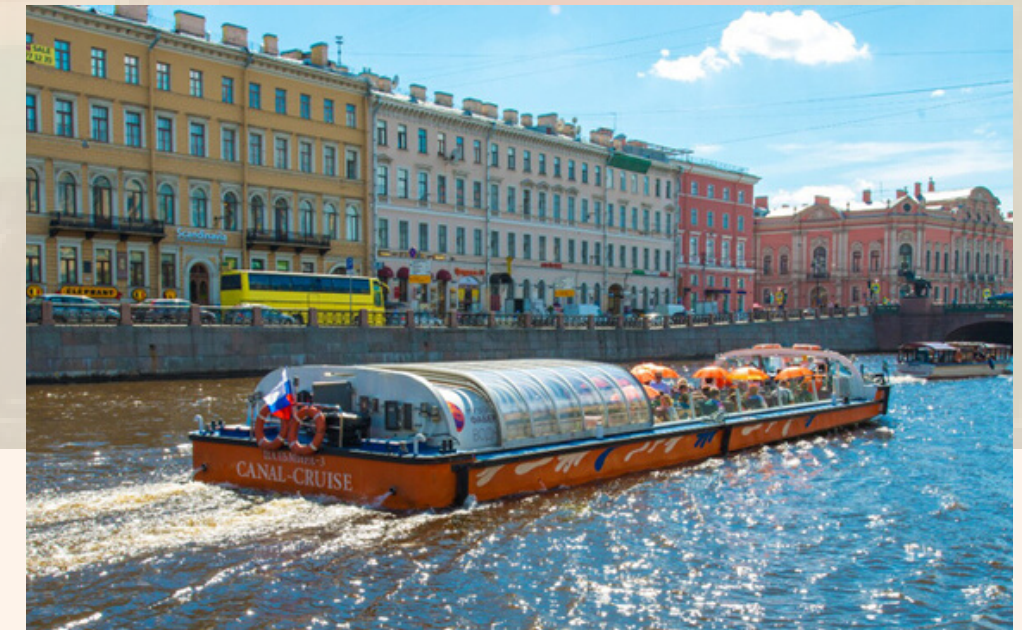
STATE HERMITAGE MUSEUM

The State Hermitage Museum is St. Petersburg's most popular visitor attraction. With over 3 million items on display it is one of the world's largest and most prestigious museums.



PUSHKIN IN SUMMER

The Summer Palace is one of the most picturesque parks among the former residences of the Russian Emperors. The Catherine's Palace surrounded by the marvelous park is a splendid example of the Russian Baroque and a must-see on a trip to Saint Petersburg.



CRUISE BY NEVA RIVER

The complex web of rivers, canals, and channels seem to bind St. Petersburg together, while also marking the borders of its different districts and neighborhoods. Cruise the rivers and canals of St. Petersburg to explore the low-rise classical architecture, the great vistas of the city.

Southern Russia - Elista & Sochi



ELISTA

It is a fantastic city to visit; it boasts a number of Buddhist monasteries and is the capital of the only Buddhist region in Europe.



SOCHI

Sochi, the largest and brightest summer and winter resort of Russia, or the Pearl of the Black Sea, offers its visitors all kinds of entertainment, including active sports and eco-tourism.

Siberia - Lake Baikal



SHANMAN ROCK

It is the most famous symbol of the lake; all photo collections of this natural phenomenon include this rock. The cape consists of crystalline limestone with quartz veins, and the adjacent shore — granite rock. The rock is covered with bright red lichen.



KHOBOY

The northernmost cape of Olkhon Island is Khoboy cape that means “a fang, a molar” in Buryat language. The form of the cape really does look like a fang.



LAKE BAIKAL

Nicknamed ‘the Pearl of Siberia’, Lake Baikal is one of the deepest lakes in the world and. Only in the northern realms of the region you’ll find the frozen tundra, a popular view you can enjoy from a cruise.

SOUVENIRS RECOMMENDATION

We all want our travel memories to remain fresh forever. But if only memories were left alone. It is human nature to possess material belonging as a reminder of their cherished memories. Whether you splurge on your travels, buy a cheap souvenir, pick a free memento or just take lots of photos, there is always something to look back to after your return.

History-soaked porcelain



Valenki



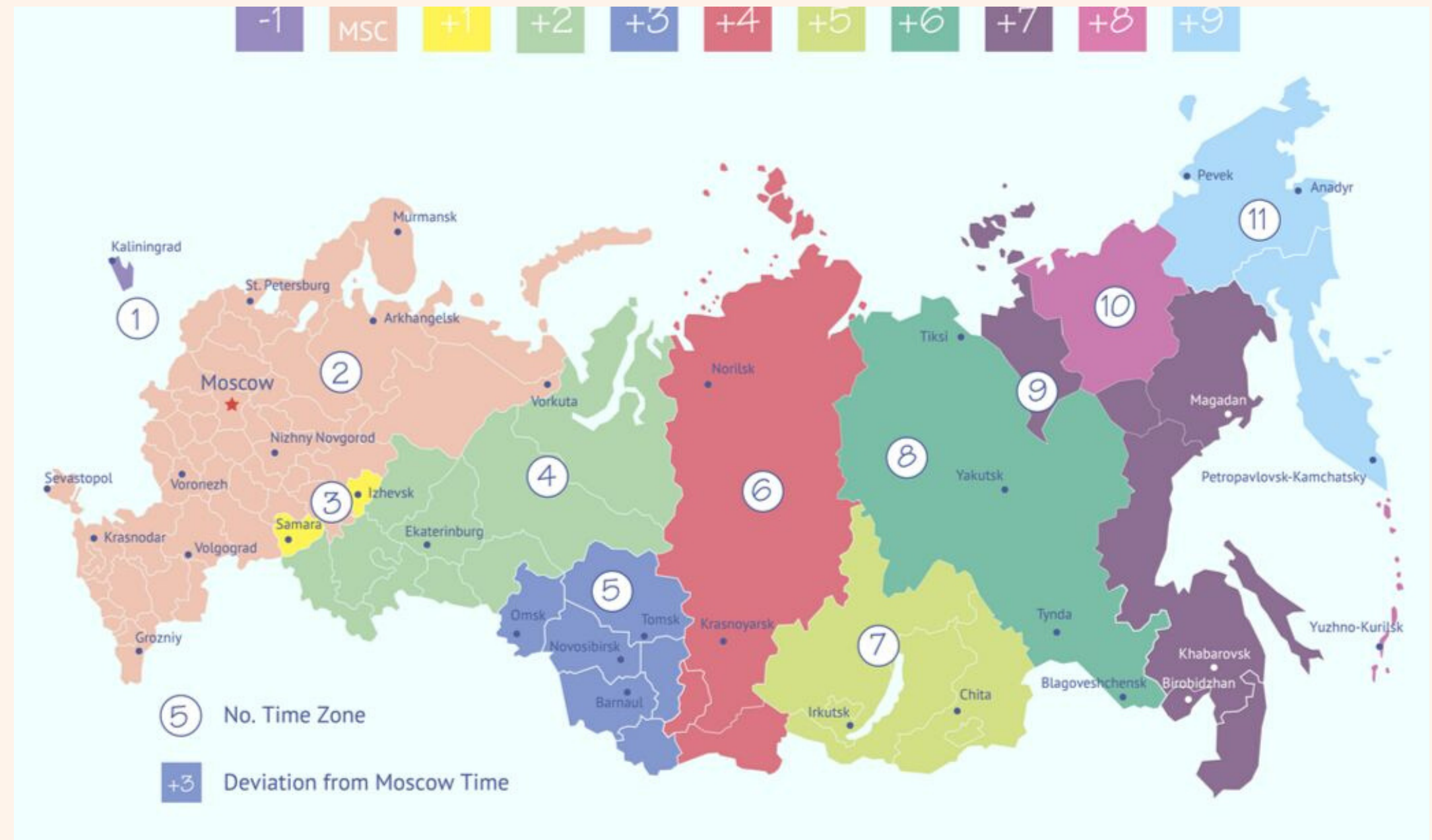
Winter hat



Matryoshka doll

TRAVEL TIPS

5 things to know before visiting Russia for the first time.





DUTY-FREE ALLOWANCE

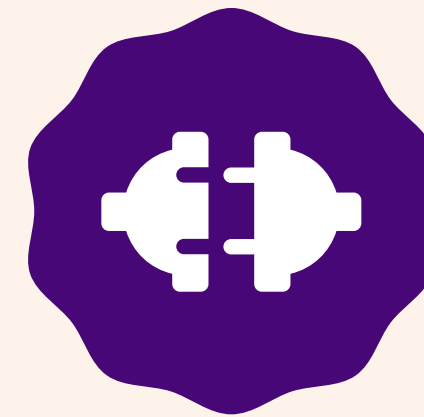
The following goods may be imported into Russia by persons aged 18 years and older without incurring customs duty.

- 400 cigarettes or 100 cigars or 500g of tobacco
- 3L of alcohol
- Goods to the value of €1,500 weighing up to 50kg
- Caviar (factory packed) max. 250 grams per person



STANDARD TO TIP

Tipping is generally practiced across the service industry in Russia and its customary to leave a 10% tip. Taxi fares are metered so there's no need to leave a tip, but the guests usually round up the final amount. In Hotels, porters will expect a tip of around \$1 per bag while for the cleaning staff \$2 per day will be ample.



PLUGS

Standard voltage is 220 volts, 50Hz AC. Primary sockets generally require Continental or European plugs of the two round pin variety.



TIME ZONE

Russia is divided into 11 time zones with the furthest point of eastern Russia 12 hours ahead of GMT. The city of Yekaterinburg falls in a different time zone to Moscow and St Petersburg and is 5 hours ahead of GMT. All timetables on Russian Railways follow Moscow Time while airports follow local time.



BARGAINING

In most places, the price of goods is fixed and clearly labeled. In markets however, a little bargaining is largely accepted by the vendors.

ITINERARY

The world's largest country offers it all, from historic cities and idyllic countryside to train rides. Every moment gives you an opportunity to discover brand new views.





10- Day Russia's Tour

Day 1: Welcome to Russia

Pick up from the airport, Transfer to hotel

Day 2: Moscow

Spend a full day touring in the capital Moscow. Begin to discover the history of the Russian Federation. Catch a glimpse of the unique set of old architecture masterpieces and modern high-tech buildings in the city tour. Explore the main landmarks, the Red Square, the Kremlin, the Victory Park, the White House, the Arbat, Christ-the-Savior Cathedral, the observation platform of Sparrow hills, Lomonossov University and many more.

Day 3: Moscow

Explore the vast museum of real underground palaces with impressive interiors, statues and reliefs, monumental and decorative compositions (paintings, mosaics, stained glass and painting) and numerous labyrinths. Uncover the world's best collection of Russian Art in the The State Tretyakov Gallery, founded in 1856 by the merchant and patron of the arts Pavel Tretyakov to display the works of Russian artists. Stop by the Izmailovo market, an incredible place with amazing architecture and welcoming atmosphere of real Russian compound.



10- Day Russia's Tour

Day 4: Moscow – Yaroslavl

Visit Sergiev Posad, one of the most fascinating sights of the Russian Golden Ring, which represents the masterpieces of traditional Russian architecture of the 14th – 15th centuries as well as valuable painting objects. Explore the Trinity Cathedral, town's main landmark; in fact, the famous Russian icon painters Andrei Rublev and Daniel Chorny painted the icon stand in this Cathedral.

Day 5: Yaroslavl – Suzdal

Discover the Yaroslavl City with a rich history of more than 1000 years, which is part of the UNESCO Heritage. Explore all the landmarks representing the development of Russian architecture from the 16th to 18th centuries: Annunciation Cathedral, the Monastery of the Transfiguration of the Savior, Holy Gate, Church of Elijah the Prophet and many others.

Day 6: Moscow – St. Petersburg

Travel from Moscow to St. Petersburg via the high-speed Sapsan train.

10- Day Russia's Tour

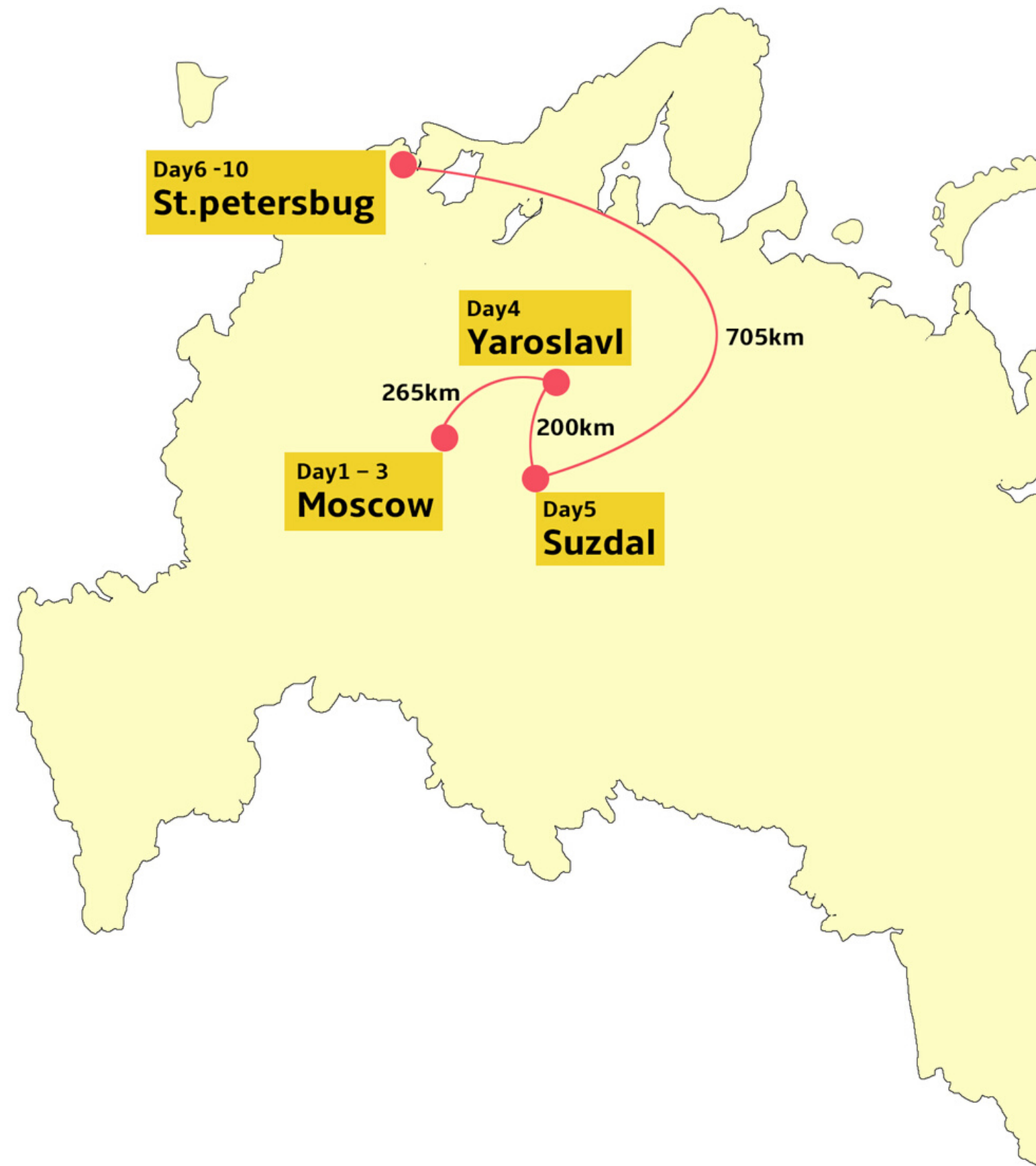


Day 7: St.petersbug

Allow yourself to get a bright impression of Saint Petersburg by sightseeing for a brief period in the city. Discover the most precious monuments of the city's rich history and original architecture carefully preserved as the world cultural heritage. Learn about the amazing stories of the main architectural and historical sites. Explore and capture fine pictures of Nevsky prospect, the Kazan Cathedral, the Winter Palace, Vasilevsky Island, St. Isaac Cathedral, Peter and Paul Fortress, the Senate Square and the Palace Square.

Day 8: St.petersbug

Explore Pushkin, home of Catherine the Great Summer Palace, the heart of Tsarskoe Selo (Tsar's Village) and one of the most picturesque parks among the former residences of the Russian Emperors that attracts tourists from all over the world. Experience the atmosphere of the Royal way of life in its entire magnificence. Explore the marvelous park and the Catherine's Palace, the most impressive highlight of every visit to Saint Petersburg. Visit Saint Isaac's Cathedral, one of the largest churches in Saint Petersburg, where the construction took 40 years, and today remains one of the most impressive buildings in the city center.



Day 9: St.petersbug

Explore the Peterhof palace and park, located on the southern shore of the Gulf of Finland, 34 kilometers from St. Petersburg, which is most famous mainly for its fountains and thus frequently compared to Versailles. Take a river cruise along the Neva River and Canals, a boat tour on the Saint Petersburg, aptly called “North Venice”, rivers and canals is an absolute while you are there. Indulge in the breathtaking views from the water and bridges over the city architecture. Observe all the main points of interest of Saint Petersburg from water and listen to the stories about the most famous bridges, Anichkov Bridge and Bridge with Golden Gryphons.

Day 10: St.petersbug


Pick up from hotel. Transfer to the airport.


From 2,685 USD / per person

Note: Expats Holidays can arrange the tour according to your needs. The tailor-made tour price will change depending on your needs.



Explore the colours of life!

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Time Saving

A wide-angle photograph of the Moscow skyline at sunset. The sky is a mix of soft pinks, oranges, and purples. In the background, the Kremlin's towers and domes are visible, some with red stars. A bridge spans the Moskva River in the middle ground, and a small boat is on the water in the foreground. The water reflects the warm colors of the sky and the lights of the city.

MANY THANKS!

All we care about is you.