

“Cultural Summer in Russia” day by day Itinerary

Day 1, July 17, 2010

Arrival in Moscow. Transfer to Pereslavl-Zalessky. Dinner at the hotel.

Day 2, July 18, 2010

Breakfast at the hotel. City tour of Pereslavl-Zalessky. Lunch at Berendeev House with traditional Russian “Bread and Salt” welcome ceremony, folklore entertaining program and visit to mask museum. In the afternoon hot air-balloon festival. Flight over Pereslavl on the hot air balloon is available but not included in the price. Dinner.

Day 3, July 19, 2010

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer and day trip to Yaroslavl. Discover Yaroslavl with its magnificent 13th-century Spassky Monastery ensemble, a group of majestic 17th century cathedrals, an elegant rotunda and remnants of an ancient trading center. Dinner.

Day 4, July 20, 2010

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to Sergiev-Posad which is often called Russian Vatican. In XIV century, Saint Sergius Radonezhsky founded one of the biggest and most famous Russian Monasteries - the Trinity Monastery of St. Sergius. Sergiev Posad is also known for its Matryoshkas, famous Russian stackable dolls. Art and folk craft was promoted by the monastery which produced wooden toys, known as *Trinity toys*, to sell in the large, open-air market in front of the monastery. After lunch you will be offered Matryoshka painting workshop.

Day 5, July 21, 2010

After breakfast you will visit magnificent Vladimir, serene Bogolyubovo, picturesque Suzdal,

Day 6, July 22, 2010

After breakfast program at picturesque historical Museum-estate «Boat of Peter I». According to the legend it was built by young Peter the Great. Real details that are kept here arouse great interest, among them: carved decorations, anchors, cannons of Peter’s “toy-fleet” as well as remnants of Peter’s business yard of that time. Visitors of the unique museums have an excellent opportunity to make an unforgettable trip to the past taking part in the amusement program «Peter’s assembly «Gambling of the centuries» In the afternoon picnic by the Pleshcheyevo Lake.

Day 7, July 23, 2010

After breakfast day trip to the Russian farm. You will have a chance to experience agricultural life at first hand and enjoy traditional Russian homemade meals. Fun is guaranteed!

Day 8, July 24, 2010

Pereslavl-Zalesskiy is an ancient city whose history goes back eight centuries. By tradition the city celebrates its birthday at the end of July. This genuine celebration greets all guests with memorable stage performances, games, concerts, and, of course, a holiday fireworks display.!

Day 9, July 25, 2010

There is good reason that Pereslavl is known as the "cradle" of the Russian navy. It was here at the end of the 17th Century that young Peter the Great was enchanted by the blue expanses of Lake Pleshcheevo and began to build his famous "toy" flotilla, which served as the foundation for Russia's navy. The day is dedicated to Peter the Great and the great transformations he made in Russia. During the holiday visitors can see how the era of Russian sailing ships began, how the first masts were built, and how the first sails were sewn. Our last day in Pereslavl-Zalessky.

Day 10, July 26, 2010

After breakfast transfer to Moscow. City Tour of Moscow.

Day 11, July 27, 2010

After breakfast tour of Kremlin and Back in the USSR tour. After dinner transfer to the train station and overnight train to Saint-Petersburg.

Day 12, July 28, 2010

After breakfast city tour of Saint-Petersburg with visit of Peter and Paul fortress. In the afternoon visit to the Hermitage.

Day 13, July 29, 2010

After breakfast day trip to Petrodvorets (Peter's Palace), formerly called Peterhof, one of the major palace-and-park complexes in the suburbs of St.-Petersburg, was founded by Peter the Great in the suburbs of the "new capital" of Russia in the early 18th century. The stately parks, innumerable fountains, beautiful cascades, gilt and marble statues of gods and heroes, exuberant decoration of the palaces in Peterhof were meant to symbolize the grandeur of Russia, which "having cut a window on Europe" consolidated itself on the shores of the Baltic Sea.

Day 14th, July 30, 2010

After breakfast day trip to Tsarskoe Selo.

If any proof is needed for the extravagance of Russia's Imperial rulers, then it can be found in the fact that, in less than two centuries, the Romanov Tsars established not one but two suburban estates - at Tsarskoe Selo and Peterhof - that, in terms of grandeur and excess, outstrip even Versailles.

Farewell Dinner.