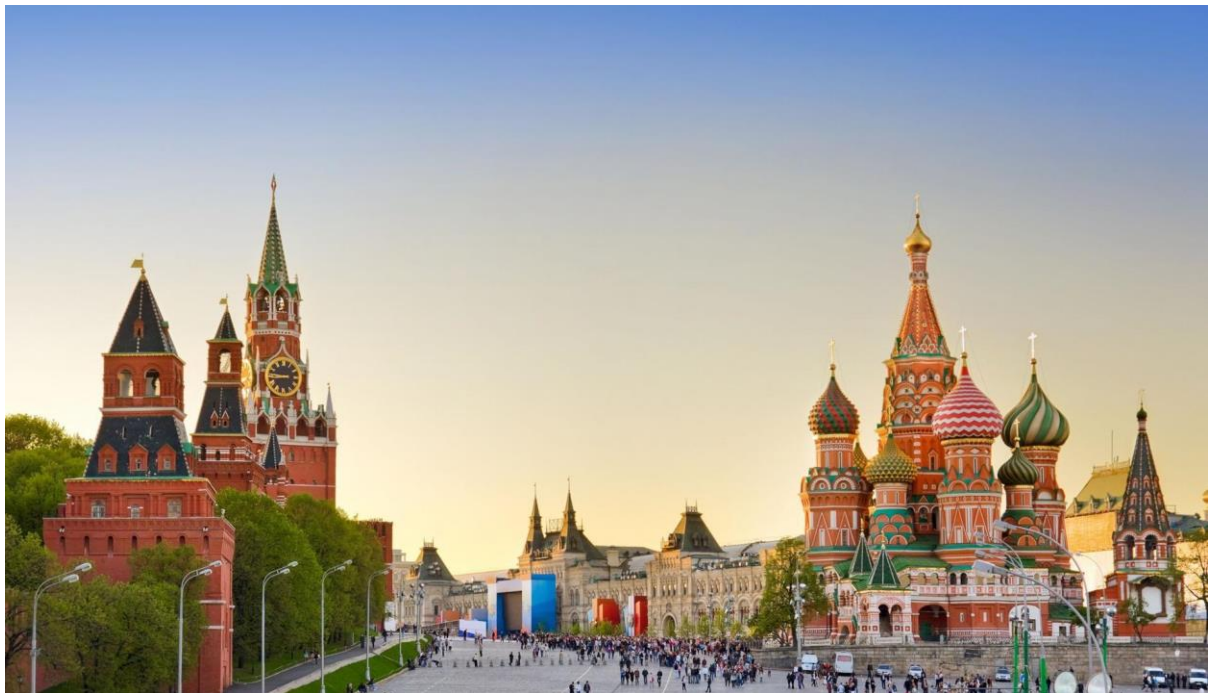




Essence of Russia Tour

07 Days / 06 Nights

Moscow (3N) - St. Petersburg (3N)



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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

1. Explore Moscow's historic **Red Square** and admire **St. Basil's Cathedral's** iconic, colorful **onion domes**.
2. Enjoy panoramic views over the Moskva River from **Sparrow Hills**, capped with a scenic cable car ride
3. Travel in comfort to St. Petersburg aboard the scenic **Aurora Double Decker train**
4. Discover the **State Hermitage Museum's** world-renowned art collection housed within the opulent **Winter Palace**
5. Cruise **St. Petersburg's picturesque canals** and wander the grand boulevard of **Nevsky Prospect**

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

Day 01	Arrive In Moscow
Day 02	Moscow City Tour
Day 03	Kremlin and Cathedral Tour In Moscow
Day 04	Transfer To St. Petersburg
Day 05	Visit To Hermitage Museum
Day 06	Day At Leisure In St. Petersburg
Day 07	Transfer To Kigali And Departure

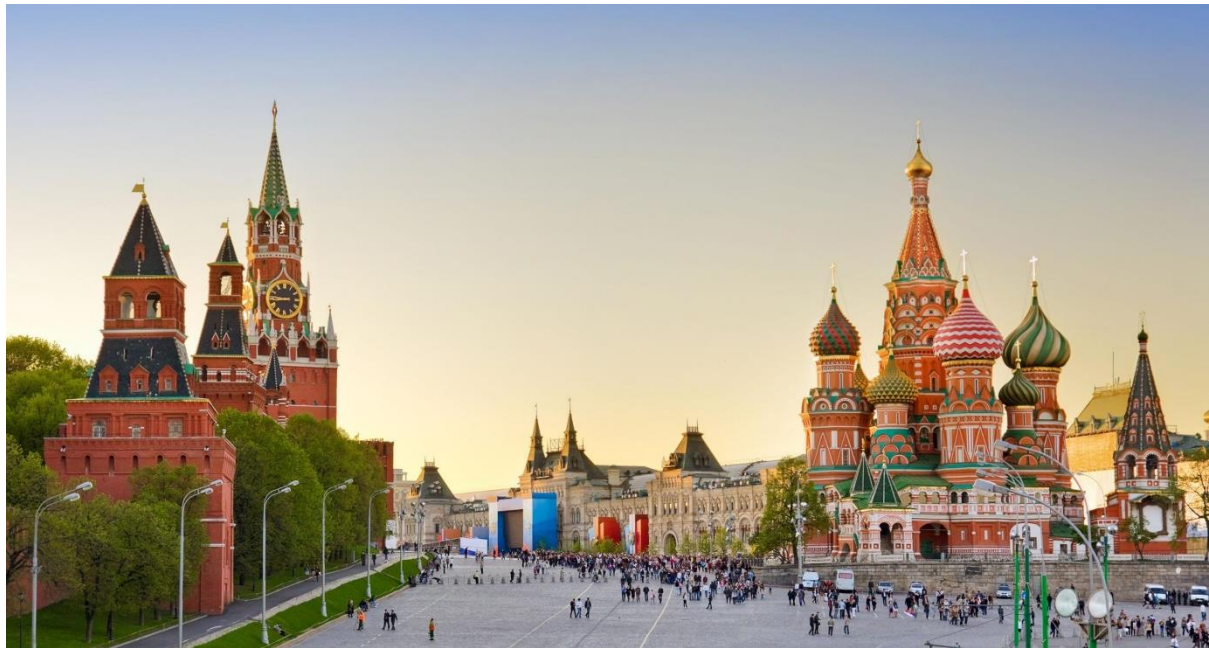
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DAY 01: ARRIVE IN MOSCOW

Arrive at Moscow International Airport and proceed with the transfer to the hotel by car or minivan. Upon arrival, proceed to the hotel for check-in and rest after the journey.

Moscow, the capital of Russia, is a city renowned for its grand architecture, historic landmarks, cultural heritage and political significance. The city beautifully combines centuries-old monuments with modern urban life and is home to some of Russia's most iconic attractions.



Rest of the day is free for leisure and relaxation. Spend the evening exploring the surroundings of the hotel or take a leisurely walk through the nearby streets of Moscow.

Overnight stay at hotel in Moscow.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Arrive in Moscow
- Leisure time to relax after the journey

DAY 02: MOSCOW CITY TOUR

After breakfast at hotel, proceed for a city sightseeing tour of Moscow, covering **Red Square**, **Zaryadye Park**, **GUM Department Store**, **St. Basil's Cathedral** and the surrounding historic landmarks.

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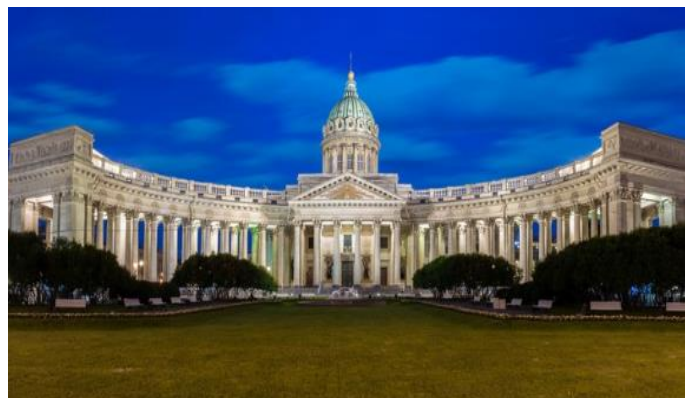


Begin with **Red Square**, the historic heart of Moscow and one of Russia's most recognisable landmarks. The square is surrounded by some of the city's most important architectural treasures and has played a central role in Russia's history. Proceed to **Zaryadye Park** for a photo stop at the famous **Flying Bridge**, offering views over the Moskva River and the historic city centre.



Continue to **GUM Department Store**, an iconic architectural landmark located along Red Square, known for its grand glass-roofed galleries and elegant interiors. Proceed to **St. Basil's Cathedral**, famous for its distinctive colourful domes and intricate design, and one of the most recognisable symbols of Moscow.

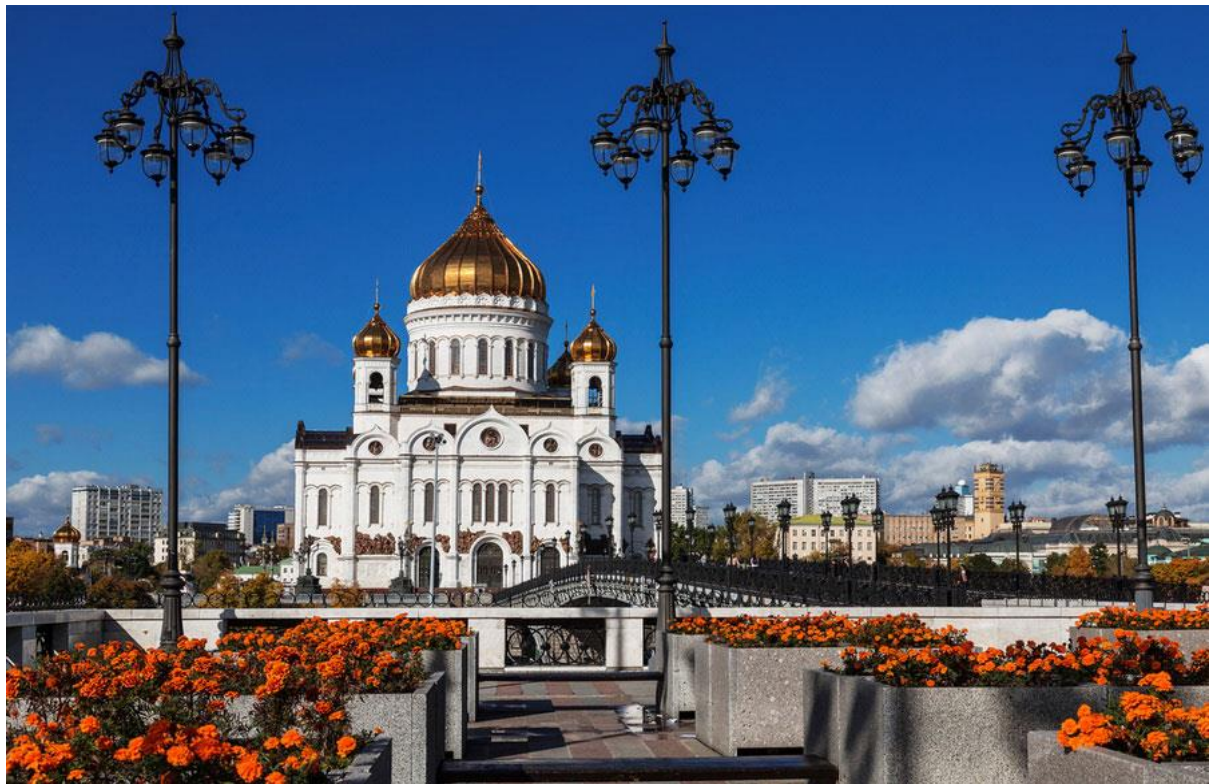
Continue past Lenin's Mausoleum, located along the Kremlin wall, and the State Historical Museum, which houses an extensive collection representing Russia's history and cultural heritage. Proceed to **Kazan Cathedral**, a historic Orthodox church situated on Red Square and known for its religious and national significance.



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Later, continue to the **Cathedral of Christ the Saviour**, one of Moscow's most prominent religious landmarks and an important symbol of Russian Orthodox Christianity. Proceed to **Moscow State University**, one of Russia's leading educational institutions and one of the famous Stalinist Seven Sisters buildings.



Continue to **Victory Park**, a major memorial complex dedicated to the Soviet victory in the Second World War. Later, proceed to **Sparrow Hills**, one of Moscow's well-known viewpoints, offering panoramic views across the city and the Moskva River, followed by a one-way cable car ride across the area.

Overnight stay at hotel in Moscow.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral and Moscow's historic centre
- Sparrow Hills and one-way cable car ride

DAY 03: KREMLIN AND CATHEDRAL TOUR IN MOSCOW

After breakfast at hotel, embark on a tour to experience the finest of Kremlin and its Cathedrals followed by free evening in Moscow for leisure and independent exploration.

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Proceed for a **full-day Kremlin and Cathedrals visit** combined with a **Moscow Metro** and **Arbat Street walking tour**. The experience includes a visit to the historic Kremlin complex and its cathedrals, followed by an exploration of Moscow's renowned metro stations and the historic Arbat Street.

The rest of the evening remains free to explore Moscow at a relaxed pace or discover additional attractions and neighbourhoods according to individual interest. The city offers a variety of museums, shopping areas, historic streets and cultural landmarks beyond the main sightseeing route.



Overnight stay at hotel in Moscow.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Free day for leisure and independent exploration
- Optional Kremlin, Moscow Metro and Arbat Street tour

DAY 04: TRANSFER TO ST. PETERSBURG

After breakfast at hotel, take the breakfast box and proceed for the transfer to the railway station to board the Aurora Double Decker train to St. Petersburg.

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St. Petersburg, often regarded as Russia's cultural capital, is renowned for its imperial heritage, elegant architecture, canals and world-famous museums. Founded by Peter the Great, the city was designed with a strong European influence and is known for its grand palaces, historic squares and artistic traditions.



Upon arrival in St. Petersburg, meet the guide and driver and proceed for a city sightseeing tour. Continue past St. Isaac's Cathedral, one of the city's most impressive architectural landmarks, distinguished by its monumental dome and grand interiors. Proceed to the **Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood**, famous for its elaborate mosaic decoration and distinctive colourful domes.

Continue along **Nevsky Prospect**, the principal avenue of St. Petersburg and a vibrant centre of shopping, architecture and city life. Proceed along the Neva River embankments, offering views of the city's historic buildings, bridges and waterways.



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Visit the **Mariinsky Theatre** next, one of Russia's most prestigious theatres and a major centre for opera and ballet. Proceed past the Winter Palace, the former imperial residence and part of the renowned Hermitage Museum complex.



Continue to the **Bronze Horseman Statue**, an iconic monument dedicated to Peter the Great and an important symbol of St. Petersburg. Proceed past the Admiralty, one of the city's most recognisable historic buildings and a significant reminder of St. Petersburg's maritime heritage.

Later, proceed to the hotel for check-in and overnight stay at hotel in St. Petersburg.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Aurora Double Decker train journey to St. Petersburg
- St. Petersburg city sightseeing and historic landmarks

DAY 05: VISIT TO HERMITAGE MUSEUM

After breakfast at hotel, proceed for a visit to the Hermitage Museum, followed by a canal cruise and walking tour along Nevsky Prospect.

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The **State Hermitage Museum** is one of the world's largest and most renowned art museums, housed partly within the magnificent Winter Palace. Its extensive collection spans centuries of European and world art, making it one of the most important cultural institutions in St. Petersburg.



Later, proceed for a **one-hour common boat canal cruise** through the waterways of St. Petersburg. The cruise offers a different perspective of the city's historic architecture, bridges and embankments while highlighting the network of canals that has earned St. Petersburg its distinctive character.

Continue with a walking tour along **Nevsky Prospect**, the city's principal boulevard and one of its most important historic streets. The avenue is lined with architectural landmarks, churches, shops and cultural institutions and remains one of the liveliest parts of central St. Petersburg.



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Later, proceed instead to **Grand Market of Russia**, a large-scale miniature exhibition depicting different regions, landscapes, cities and everyday scenes from across Russia.

Overnight stay at hotel in St. Petersburg.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit to the State Hermitage Museum
- Canal cruise and Nevsky Prospect walking tour.

DAY 06: DAY AT LEISURE IN ST. PETERSBURG

After breakfast at hotel, enjoy a day at leisure in St. Petersburg for independent exploration.

The day remains free to explore more of St. Petersburg's cultural attractions, historic streets and local surroundings. Additional museums, palaces, gardens and architectural landmarks can be explored independently according to interest.



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SEGV RECOMMENDATION: Proceed for a full-day excursion to **Peterhof Lower Park** and **Catherine's Palace**. Peterhof is famous for its magnificent palace complex, landscaped gardens and spectacular fountains overlooking the Gulf of Finland. Continue to Catherine's Palace, renowned for its grand imperial architecture, ornate interiors and the celebrated Amber Room.

Overnight stay at hotel in St. Petersburg.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Free day for leisure in St. Petersburg
- Optional Peterhof Lower Park and Catherine's Palace excursion.

DAY 07: DEPARTURE

After breakfast at hotel, check out and transfer to Airport for your onward flight.

Arrive home with pleasant memories of your **Moscow tour** organized by State Express Global Voyages, which we are sure you will treasure for a lifetime.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Board a flight back to India



"TOUR END"

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