

SSIA:

**THE MAIN INFORMATION ABOUT
THE DESTINATION**

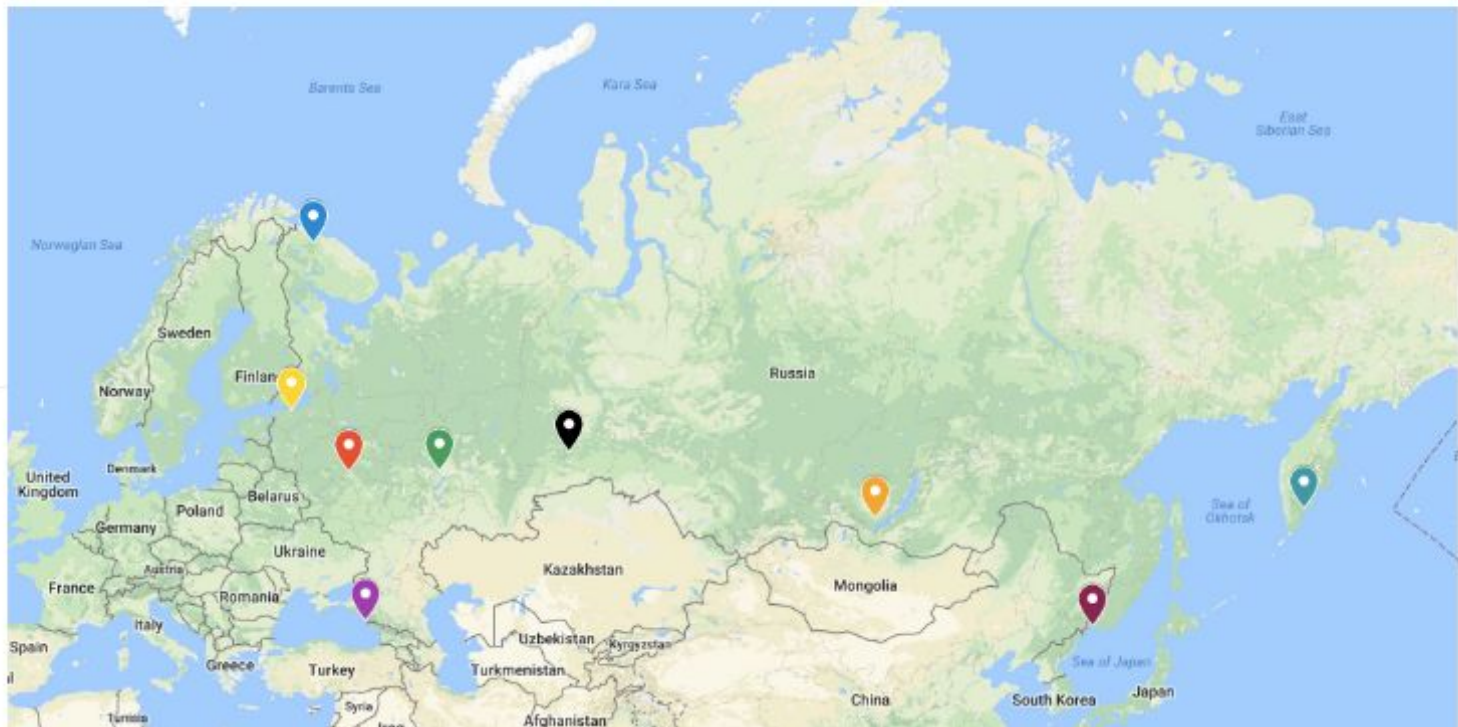
THE BIGGEST COUNTRY

THE LONGEST DISTANCES

Russia

Russia

- 📍 Moscow
- 📍 Saint Petersburg
- 📍 Kazan
- 📍 Sochi
- 📍 Murmansk
- 📍 Irkutsk
- 📍 Vladivostok
- 📍 Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy
- 📍 Tyumen



MOSCOW

Clear seasonality:

- **High season: May – September**
- **Low season: October – April**

NOTE! During low season rates in almost all hotels in Moscow are **twice more expensive on weekdays**. The reason is that Moscow is a business-city, many businessmen come there for meetings and events.

MOSCOW VISITS

- **Kremlin (territory & cathedrals);**
- **Armory Chamber** (located close to Kremlin, so these visits could be combined);
- **Red Square area** (near Kremlin): **St. Basil's Cathedral** (it is beautiful only outside, is not worth visiting from inside), **GUM** (luxury brands, traditional ice-cream from Soviet times); **Lenin's mausoleum** (it is open only 10:00-13:00 Tue-Thur & Sat-Sun, and there are usually long queues, so we never include this visit), **Alexander's Garden**, **Okhotny Ryad shopping mall (mass-market brands)**, **Zaryadye (modern park)**;
- **Moscow Cathedral Mosque;**
- **Tretyakov Gallery** (Russian artists' works);
- **Pushkin State Museum** (Russian and foreign artists' works);
- **Novodevichiy Cemetery & Monastery** (beautiful architecture & tombs of famous Russians);
- **MSU** (Moscow State University, Stalin's epoch building), **Sparrow Hills** (observation point)
- **Gorky Park** (big modern beautiful park with fountains);
- **Izmailovo souvenir market** (better be visited on weekend, there are more shops open);
- **Cosmonautics museum** (history of space exploration, interesting and modern) and very close is =>
- **VDNKH** – huge Soviet epoch park with beautiful pavilions (now partly under reconstruction);
- **Tsaritsyno Palace** is a beautiful palace which was built for Russian Empress Catherine the Great;
- **Holy Trinity Lavra** – ancient monastery in Serguiev Posad (half-day visit with lunch);
- **Radisson cruise** – cruise along Moscow-river on a modern yacht (with/without lunch/dinner);
- **Circus show** – Russian Circus is well-know all over the world, so it is a “must-visit” during the stay in Moscow. There are 2 main circuses in the city: Nikulin Circus and Big Circus, they are of the same level.

MOSCOW SPECIAL VISITS

- **Husky dogs sledge ride and photo-shooting with dogs** (available only in winter);
- **Banya** – Russian sauna experience;
- **Military tour** – tank ride & AK-47 shooting (outside Moscow, half-day tour with lunch);
- **Shooting range experience** (in the city);
- **Bolshoi theatre** – the main Russian theatre. It is possible to go inside with excursion to see beautiful interiors or to come to see the performance (tickets are pretty expensive).
- **Bunker-42** is a real bunker from Soviet times, which offers interesting entertainment in military style.

MOSCOW RESTAURANTS

- The most budget restaurants are Chinese (from 11 USD);
- Local restaurants are affordable for lunch (from 11 USD), but are considerably more expensive for dinner (from 18 USD). So it is more economic to arrange local lunch + Chinese dinner.
- There is a couple of Thai and Vietnamese restaurants (from 16 USD);
- There are only a few Japanese and Korean restaurants, which are expensive, from 22-25 USD! Could be used for VIP groups.
- ◆ **AMAZING RUSSIA** – big renovated venue with own catering (European / Indian / Chinese / Vegetarian cuisine) with folk-show. They have regular collecting dinners with show, also they can arrange private dinner with show for big groups <http://amazing-russia.com>

MOSCOW HOTELS

3* budget – Maxima chain (Slavia / Irbis / Zarya), could be used for very budget groups. Almost the same price for all seasons, no difference between weekday and weekend rates;

3* international – Ibis hotels, Holiday Inn Express hotels. New good hotels, better than many 4* local hotels. Price depends on the season, different rates on weekdays and weekends;

4* local – Vega Hotel & Convention Center (ex-Best Western). It is one of our basic hotels, we have very good rates there. It is located close to the metro station, there are some shops and restaurants around the hotel. Izmailovo Kremlin and souvenir market are 5 min from the hotel by foot.

4* international – Holiday Inn chain hotels. Different rates on weekdays and weekends. Our rates here are pretty good.

Azimuth Hotels (int. chain from Russia) – there are 2 hotels:

Azimuth Olympic 4 - semi-central location, big rooms, good breakfast

GOLDEN RING

The main cities of the Golden Ring are:

- Serguiev Posad – the closest from Moscow (needs half-day to visit). Except of Holy Trinity Lavra Monastery there is a Toy Factory where we can arrange Matreshka (Russian doll) painting master-class;
- Vladimir and Suzdal – ancient Russian cities, Vladimir used to be the capital of the ancient Russia. There are many orthodox churches, the nature in summer is also very beautiful.

To visit these 3 cities 1 overnight is needed.

If we want to add other cities, we need 1 or 2 more nights.



SAINT PETERSBURG

We could come to SPB from Moscow by:

1) Sapsan train (4 hours); 2) flight (1 hour + time to reach airport and formalities).

Clear seasonality:

- High season: May – September
- Low season: October – April

“White nights” period (from mid-May till mid-June) is a natural phenomenon in SPB, when at night it is almost as light as during the day-time. Prices during this period are especially high!

During high season there are huge problems with accommodation, for each request we need to check availability and prices in hotels.

During low season prices even in 5* hotels are very reasonable.

There is almost no division between weekdays and weekend rates.

SAINT PETERSBURG VISITS

- **Hermitage (main building with Russian artists works). Foreign artists works (impressionists) are located in another building at additional price.**
- **Peterhof palace and park with fountains (half-day visit). Fountains work from the end of April till mid-October.**
- **Pushkin (Catherine's Palace) – half-day visit.**
- **Pavlovsk palace - half-day visit.**
- **Peter & Paul's Fortress. It is possible to only enter the territory, the visit to the cathedral could be given at optional price.**
- **St. Isaac's Cathedral (near P&PF) – very beautiful from inside!**
- **Spilled Blood Cathedral – is more beautiful from outside, than from inside.**
- **Canal cruise – there are ordinary boats, not as luxury as Radisson yacht in Moscow.**

SAINT PETERSBURG SPECIAL VISITS

- **Faberge Museum – a museum with the collection of amazing jewelry eggs made by Carl Faberge for Russian empire families and aristocracy. The visit is quite expensive, but highly recommended for people who love exquisite things and jewelry.**
- **Military tour with tank ride and AK-47 shooting.**
- **Budget ballet performances (only during high season).**
- **Folk-shows:**
 - ◆ **At Nikolaevskiy Palace (show with fourchette, than dinner);**
 - ◆ **At the restaurant “Saint-Petersburg”, the show is in variety style.**

SAINT PETERSBURG RESTAURANTS

- **The most budget restaurants are Chinese (from 11 USD);**
- **Local restaurants are budget for lunch (from 11 USD), but considerably more expensive for dinner (from 16 USD). So it is more economic to arrange local lunch + Chinese dinner.**
- **There are a couple of Vietnamese and Asian (fusion) restaurants (from 20-25 USD)**
- **There is an expansive seafood restaurant CRAB STORY, could be used for VIP groups.**

SAINT PETERSBURG HOTELS



3* budget – Bristol, Ladoga, Karelia, Okhtinskaya hotels. Cheap prices, but location is not really good. Some part of the rooms is renovated, but facades & public zones still need renovation.

3* good – Station hotel chain. New small hotels with good location, but price is as high as in 4* local hotels.

4* local hotels – Moskva, Oktiabrskaya, Dostoevskiy, Azimuth hotels. Good location, but facilities are not as good as in 4* international hotels.

4* int. (budget) – Park Inn Pribaltiyskaya & Park Inn Pulkovskaya. Located far from the city center, but close to metro stations. Good price-quality ratio, perfect option for budget groups.

4* int. (medium) – Sokos Olympia Garden & Sokos Vasilievskiy (Finnish hotel chain), Holiday Inn Moskovskiy Vorota. Not central location, but good facilities at reasonable price.

4* int. (superior) – Crowne Plaza Ligovskiy, Indigo, Radisson Sonya, Amabassador. Central location, good quality, but the prices are rather high.

5* (budget) – Radisson SPB, Emerald

5* (medium) – Moika Kempinski, Corinthia Nevskiy Palace, Talion, Angleterre

OTHER DESTINATIONS

- **Sochi** is a Russian seaside resort. Visits: Olympic objects park, Sky Park (extreme), wine degustation. 2 nights stay is enough for this city.
- **Kazan** is an ancient Russian city with beautiful architecture. The titular nation here is Tatars, who are Muslims, so there is a very beautiful cathedral mosque Kol Sharif in the city. Tourists could also visit the city-island Sviyazhsk, which is the place with the biggest concentration of orthodox churches in Russia. 2 nights stay is enough for this city.
- **Irkutsk and Lake Baikal.** Lake Baikal is the biggest lake in the world. The nature here is very beautiful and attracts many tourists. It is also recommended to visit Lake Baikal in winter, when there is beautiful blue ice (from the end of January till March), which is suitable for ice-skating. Other activities like dog-sledge ride and husky ride are also available.
- **Murmansk.** The main tourist attraction – “Aurora hunting”. There could be arranged such winter activities like husky-sledge ride and snow-mobile ride (only when there is snow!) Season from September till April. There is snow cover only from the end of November!

THANK YOU!