

# **ST'PETERSBURG, THE GREATEST CITY OF RUSSIA**

# The foundation of the city.

St.Petersburg was founded in May,17, 1703  
On this day Peter the Great founded the  
**Petropavlovskaya fortress.**



Next year, 1704, the fortress Cronshadt was founded on the island Kotlin to defend the Russia's sea frontiers

Peter the Great gave an important strategic meaning to the new city to provide the water way from Russia to West Europe.



# The Dvortsovy raising bridge



Raising the bridges is one of the favourite tourist attractions. The bridges raise for the passage of vessels along the Neva river from the Baltic Sea to the rivers of the European part of Russia.

The raising of the bridges is usually watched in the centre of the city. The most popular is the Dvortsovy Bridge. Its parts rise like two wings. This bridge is often depicted in many posters



# The Hermitage

When, in 1852 the Hermitage was opened for the audience? It was the only European museum beyond England which had the collection of English paintings. Today "The Hermitage" is one of the largest museums of the world, the funds of which have a lot of really priceless works of art. It consists of the Winter Palace, the Old, the New and the Maly Hermitages, the Hermitage Theatre and the Hermitage Garage, the Spare house of the Winter Palace, Menshikov Palace and the Eastern part of the Headquarters.



# Peterhof

Founded in the early XVIII century by the Emperor Peter the First not far from the new northern capital – St. Petersburg, Peterhof was supposed to be the most luxurious royal summer residence. Already in August 1723, the Grand opening of Peterhof took place.

According to the Peter's plan, on the one hand Peterhof was to be compared with the most famous European royal residences, on the other hand - to become a triumphal monument to the successful ending of Russia's fight for the access to the Baltic sea. Both was brilliantly realized.





# Peterhof Fountains

Peter the first took the most important role to fountains in the design of the complex. To realize his ideas the tsar attracted the best architects, engineers and other specialists from Russia and other European countries. Peter the First himself led the design and construction of water cannons. In his numerous orders, connected with the Peterhof construction, Peter the First used to explain how to construct this or that fountain, where to place cascades and which “water fun” to arrange. Most of these fountains function already about 300 years, and their fame didn't ever fade, though complicated and immense fountain systems appeared since then.



# Peter and Paul Fortress



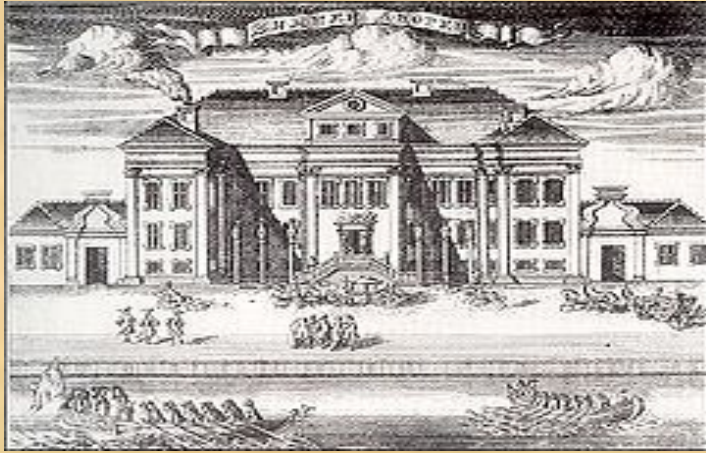
Actually, the history of Northern capital starts from the laying of this strengthening. That's why it's quite natural that the Peter and Paul Fortress is considered the oldest architect building in the list of St. Petersburg's sights.

On the holiday of Svyataya Troitsa, 27<sup>th</sup> of May 1703 according to the drawings made by Peter himself the construction-building starts to defend newly constructed Northern capital.

The leadership was requested to Alexander Menshikov. As originally all the strengthening the buildings were wooden or excavation, the construction had already been finished by October.



# Winter Palace



**Winter Palace** is one of the most important architectural monuments of St.Petersburg, the compositional center of all the surrounding area, which includes the largest urban architectural ensembles. In its artistic and town-planning terms, it belongs to the highest achievements of Russian and world architecture of the XVIII century.

Originally Winter Palace was built by D.Trezzini in 1708 for the Emperor Peter the First and got the name "Winter small mansion"

Before the wedding of Catherine and Peter, in 1711-1712, the architect replaced it by the **Second** one, having taken down the first Winter Palace. It was named in honor of the upcoming wedding "Bridal chamber".



**The Third Winter Palace** was built by the architect G. I. Mattarnovi later - in 1716-1720. It was a magnificent two-story building, which attracted by the power of stone, used as the main building material. In this Palace the Emperor Peter the great spent the last years of his life. As a consequence of the mourning event of January 28 (February 8), 1725 Grand hall of the Palace was renamed into the Funeral



After coming to power, Catherine the First reconstructed the building on her own way. She expanded the square occupied by the Palace. Already during the years of Catherine the Second, in 1782-1785, the architect Giacomo Quarenghi replaced it with the Hermitage theatre. Now it is one of the oldest theatres in Russia.

Rastrelli built the Fourth Winter Palace, on the basis of its core position in the heart of the city and Empire. The reason of the demolition of the previous building was the decree of Anna Ioannovna, who believed that the Third Winter Palace is rather boring. For the Fourth Winter Palace the apartments of Apraksin F. M., which occupied the territory of today's Palace, were rebuilt



# Dvortsovaya Square



Dvortsovaya Square is the main square of St. Petersburg the architectural ensemble, appeared in the second half of the XVIII — the first half of the XIX century.

Historical and cultural monuments of federal significance: the Winter Palace, the building of the Guards corps headquarters, the building of the General staff with the triumphal arch, the Alexander column form the square.

As a part of the historic buildings of St. Petersburg's downtown the square is included in the World heritage list.



# The bronze horseman



The most famous of the city decorating monuments, one of its sights and symbols of St. Petersburg, the horse statue of the Creator of the new capital and reformer of Russia Peter the Great. The Monument to Emperor Peter I, on the Senate square, was built during the reign of Empress Catherine II. It represents a wild rock, to which a horseman trampling a snake had flown. On both sides of the rock there are signs: **Петру Перъвому Petro Primo Екатерина Вторая, Catharina Secunda** лета 1782. **MDCCLXXXII**

# Mikhailovskaya artillery military Academy

The Mikhailovskaya military artillery Academy goes back to the year 1820, when under the initiative of Grand Duke Mikhail Pavlovich in St. Petersburg the training artillery brigade and artillery school were formed.

The official opening of the school took place on 25 November 1820 (old style). In the statute of the artillery school, it was noted that it was "Established for the educating of skilful artillery officers."





*The presentation was prepared  
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2) [http://www.liveinternet.ru/users/sh\\_la/post214102953/#](http://www.liveinternet.ru/users/sh_la/post214102953/#)