

St. Petersburg – excursions, 2011

SPB-1 & SPB-2: City tour (3 h)

While touring through the city you will enjoy of magical splendour of the architecture of the former capital of Imperial Russia, listening the history of the Romanov's dynasty and present day life of people.

Tour includes: English speaking guide and transport from/to the accommodation in St. Petersburg (SPB-2 starts with a pick up from the airport or the train station).

Best period: All year

Prices per person:

	1 person	2-3 persons	4-6 persons
SPB-1	95 EUR	50 EUR	38 EUR
SPB-2	118 EUR	60 EUR	47 EUR

SPB-3: Hermitage museum (3 h)

The Hermitage Museum is housed in the Winter Palace (and some other buildings), the main residence of the Russian imperial family. Magnificently located on the bank of the Neva River, this Baroque-style palace is perhaps the major attraction of St. Petersburg.

Today the Hermitage Museum is the largest art gallery in Russia and one of the largest and most respected art museums in the world, with 2.7 million exhibits from Ancient Egypt to early 20th century Europe. It includes works by Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, Titian, unique collections of Rembrandt, Rubens, French Impressionists (Renoir, Cezanne, Manet, Monet, Pissarro), plus Van Gogh, Matisse, Gauguin and sculptures by Rodin.

Tour includes: English speaking guide, entrance and transport from/to the accommodation in St. Petersburg.

Best period: All year (museum is closed on Mondays)

Prices per person: 1 person: 123 EUR; 2-3 persons: 70 EUR; 4-6 persons: 58 EUR

SPB-4: Isaac's Cathedral and Peter and Paul Fortress (3.5 hrs)

St. Isaac's Cathedral was originally the city's main church and the largest cathedral in Russia. It was built between 1818 and 1858, by the French-born architect Auguste Montferrand, to be one of the most impressive landmarks of the Russian Imperial capital. One hundred and eighty years later the gilded dome of St. Isaac's still dominates the skyline of St. Petersburg.

When Peter the Great re-claimed the lands along the Neva River in 1703, he decided to build a fort to protect the area from possible attack by the Swedish army and navy. The fortress was founded on a small island in the Neva delta on May 27, 1703 (May 16 according to the old calendar) and that day became the birthday of the city of St Petersburg. The Swedes were defeated before the fortress was even completed. For that reason, from 1721 onwards the fortress housed part of the city's garrison and rather notoriously served as a high security political jail. Among the first inmates was Peter's own rebellious son Alexei. Later, the list of famous residents included Dostoyevsky, Gorkiy, Trotsky and Lenin's older brother, Alexander. Parts of the former jail are now open to the public.

Tour includes: English speaking guide, entrances and transport from/to the accommodation in St. Petersburg.

Best period: All year (closed on Wednesdays)

Prices per person: 1 person: 127 EUR; 2-3 persons: 71 EUR; 4-6 persons: 60 EUR