



Play  
Video

View of Catherine's Palace in the town of Pushkin, outside St. Petersburg, Russia

## Russian History Cruise from Moscow to St. Petersburg

Join Vantage on this Russian journey and unlock the mysterious secrets and juxtaposing allure of what awaits beyond the former Iron Curtain as you peel back complex and colorful layers like an intricate matryoshka nesting doll. The Russian motherland is a seductive web of opulent charms, onion-domed cathedrals, and dynamic culture. Waltz through the grand history of Ivan the Terrible and the Empire of the Tsars onwards through the Communist Revolution, KGB lore, and into contemporary life. Explore magnificent UNESCO-designated sights like the iconic Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg and Moscow's Red Square. Discover a rich culture and even richer epicurean delights. Sail along the Golden Ring to visit the villages and pastoral landscapes of the motherland's rural countryside. Search for answers to some of Russia's most elusive questions as you chart the thrilling, yet lesser-navigated waters of the Volga River aboard the *m/s Crucelake*. Along the way, enhance your understanding of this country with riveting discussions and lectures on such subjects as history, language, handicrafts, vodka, cooking, and more. Experience home-hosted hospitality and engage with local families in an intimate small group. What's more, independent travelers can enjoy the best value and experience in four supplement-free solo cabins. And don't miss your chance to extend your tour along the Gulf of Finland by adding our optional pre-trip extension to Helsinki. Travel in first-class comfort and style aboard the high-speed Allegro Train as you're whisked off to another of Europe's most dazzling cities, celebrated for its thriving arts scene and sublime art nouveau architecture.



### ITINERARY SUMMARY

**Helsinki, Finland — 4 Days Pre-Trip from only \$362 a day!**

**DAYS 1-2:** Arrive in Russia's Imperial Capital, St. Petersburg

**DAY 3:** Discover the landmarks of the "Window on the West"

**DAY 4:** Follow in the steps of the tsars

**DAY 5:** Marvel at Peterhof and embark the *m/s Crucelake*

**DAY 6:** Visit the Peter and Paul Fortress and the Hermitage Museum

**DAY 7:** Get a glimpse of village life in Mandrogi

**DAY 8:** Visit Lake Onega & Kizhi Island

**DAY 9:** Toast your Goritsky discoveries

**DAY 10:** Learn about life on the Volga along the Golden Ring

**DAY 11:** Visit the magnificent Kremlin

**DAY 12:** Disembark ship and tour Moscow's capital delights

**DAY 13:** Immerse yourself in the arts

**DAY 14:** Depart for home

### ITINERARY

**DAYS 1-2: Arrive in Russia's Imperial Capital, St. Petersburg**

Travel to Russia on an overnight flight bound for St. Petersburg and transfer to your hotel. Tonight, gather for a Welcome Briefing and Dinner at the hotel. If you purchased our optional pre-trip extension to Helsinki, Finland, you'll arrive by train.

**DAY 3: Discover the landmarks of the "Window on the West"**

Today you'll begin your discovery of St. Petersburg, a dazzling UNESCO World Heritage city of white, gold, and pastels. You'll admire the Church on Spilled Blood and Nevsky Prospect, the city's main thoroughfare that is the focal point of shopping, dining, and nightlife. This afternoon, after lunch on your own, tour St. Petersburg's canals and beautifully adorned bridges. You'll also tour Yusupov Palace, legendary site of Rasputin's slaying.

**Vantage Exclusive:** Tour the rivers and canals of St. Petersburg, including Yusupov Palace

**Included Feature:** City tour of St. Petersburg

### VANTAGE VALUES

**FREE INTERNATIONAL AIRFARE:** Save up to \$3,998 per couple on select departures from 150 U.S. & Canadian cities!

**FREE AND REDUCED SINGLE SUPPLEMENTS** on select cabins — solo savings of up to \$7,699 — limited availability, reserve now!

**SAVE UP TO 6% WITH SMARTPAY** on your base tour, extensions, airfare, and more! For details, visit [www.vantagetravel.com/smartpay](http://www.vantagetravel.com/smartpay)

★★★★ 4-Star Moderate Deluxe

2021	2022
<b>14 Days from \$5,899</b> (only \$421 per day) With FREE Int'l Airfare	<b>14 Days from \$5,999</b> (only \$428 per day) With FREE Int'l Airfare

### Your Price Includes

- 32 included features and Cultural Connections
- Accommodations for 12 nights
- 31 meals: 12 breakfasts, 8 lunches, and 11 dinners
- 6 UNESCO World Heritage Sites on the base tour and 1 on the extension
- More details and videos online at [www.vantagetravel.com/RMS21](http://www.vantagetravel.com/RMS21)

### Customize Your Journey

Helsinki, Finland  
4 Days Pre-Trip from only \$1,449  
— See Page 60

**DAY 4: Follow in the steps of the tsars**

This morning visit Catherine's Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Have the afternoon at leisure upon returning to St. Petersburg. This evening, join a lively show of Russian folk music and dance.

**Included Feature:** Excursion to Catherine's Palace

**DAY 5: Marvel at Peterhof, the "Russian Versailles," and embark the m/s *Crucelake***

Travel a short distance outside of St. Petersburg this morning to visit Peterhof, a UNESCO site often called the "Russian Versailles." Enjoy lunch on your own before transferring to embark the m/s *Crucelake*. You'll be greeted onboard with a traditional bread and salt welcome.

**Included Feature:** Excursion to Peterhof Palace

**Cultural Connection:** Enjoy a "bread and salt" welcome

**DAY 6: Visit the Peter and Paul Fortress and the Hermitage Museum**

Today you'll visit Peter and Paul Fortress back in the city, the original citadel of St. Petersburg. Then, enjoy regional culinary specialties during lunch at a local restaurant before visiting the Hermitage Museum, a UNESCO site which features over 3 million works of art. In the evening, enjoy the Captain's Welcome Dinner and Reception, including folk and classical music.

**Included Features:** Peter and Paul Fortress • Hermitage Museum

**Cultural Connection:** Lunch in a local restaurant • Evening musical entertainment in the ship's lounge

**DAY 7: Get a glimpse of village life in Mandrogi**

After breakfast, learn the art of painting matryoshka dolls and about Russian life during a shipboard lecture. This afternoon



Kizhi Island, Russia

**UNESCO & HISTORICAL**

From Moscow's Red Square to St. Petersburg's Church on Spilled Blood — and everywhere between — discover the complex layers of Russia's past, including its world-renowned literature, groundbreaking architecture, and the communism system. You might be surprised to hear that Russia is home to 29 UNESCO World Heritage sites! Throughout your seven-night cruise, you'll get to know six of them, including the Kremlin and Peterhof Palace. For many, Russia has been an enigma for ages. Let Vantage reveal this nation's history to you.

takes you to the village of Mandrogi, where you'll visit a wooden home and a local handicrafts market, followed by a shashlik (Russian barbecue) lunch onboard. Later, partake in a lively Russian for Travelers language lesson. After dinner, enjoy live music in the bar.

**Included Feature:** Walking tour of Mandrogi

**Cultural Connections:** Shashlik Russian BBQ • Matryoshka doll painting lesson • Russian language lesson and Presentation on everyday Russian life

**DAY 8: Visit Lake Onega & Kizhi Island**

Arrive at Kizhi Island this morning and enjoy a visit to the Open-Air Museum of Wooden Architecture. There, see the Kizhi Pogost, whose church and the adjacent clock tower are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy lunch later on board. Later, attend a lecture on the history and production of Russian vodka. After dinner on board, enjoy live music in the bar.

**Vantage Exclusive:** Kizhi Island excursion

**Cultural Connections:** Lecture on Russian vodka • Live music in the lounge

**DAY 9: Toast your Goritsky discoveries**

This morning, learn more about Russian history during an onboard lecture before arriving in Goritsy village for a walking tour. Visit a local school and home to learn about day-to-day life, as well as the Resurrection Monastery. This afternoon, try your hand at Russian specialties during a cooking lesson, followed by vodka and tea with pies and a blini tasting. Later, enjoy a cocktail reception before dinner onboard.

**Included Features:** Walking tour of Goritsy • Resurrection Monastery

**Cultural Connections:** Onboard lecture on Russian history

• Visit a local school and home • Russian cooking lesson, followed by a blini and vodka tasting

**DAY 10: Learn about life on the Volga along the Golden Ring**

Discover Uglich this morning, part of the storied Golden Ring. A favorite of Ivan the Terrible, you'll learn more about its fascinating history on a walking tour. Highlights include Dmitry of the Blood Church and Transfiguration Cathedral. Later, visit a local home, where tea and tasty pies await. After lunch onboard, enjoy a lecture about Russian fairy tales. Later this evening, indulge in a Captain's Farewell Reception and Farewell Dinner, with a talent show and onboard entertainment.

**Included Feature:** Walking tour of Uglich

**Cultural Connections:** Visit a local home • Onboard lecture about Russian fairy tales

**DAY 11: Visit the magnificent Kremlin**

Enjoy breakfast on board your ship before a port talk on Russia's capital. This afternoon, visit the Kremlin on a guided tour that includes Assumption Cathedral and the State Armory Chambers, the repository of the bejeweled Fabergé eggs. Tonight's dinner is in a local restaurant.

**Included Features:** The Kremlin • Armory Chambers

**Cultural Connection:** Dinner in a local restaurant

**DAY 12: Disembark ship and tour Moscow's capital delights**

This morning, disembark and enjoy a city tour including the Cathedral of Christ the Saviour, the KGB building, the Kremlin Towers, and the Arbat. On today's tour, you'll also visit Moscow's Metro, a public-works remnant from the 1950s. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure and dinner on your own. This evening, enjoy a Moscow by Night tour featuring several photo stops, including the UNESCO-listed Red Square with its twinkling lights.

**Vantage Exclusive:** Moscow by Night tour

**Included Features:** City tour of Moscow • Visit the Arbat

**ART & CULTURE**

Russia overflows with culture and expression. From culinary traditions to metro art, we'll show you this nation's ubiquitous artistry. With visits to the Tretyakov Gallery, the Hermitage Museum, and the Peterhof Palace, you'll fall for centuries' worth of fine art. Try your hand at painting a matryoshka (nesting doll) during a craft session and get to know locals over tea in a Russian home. Learn about the prominence of Russian literature and become enchanted with this fairy-tale land.

pedestrian thoroughfare

**Cultural Connection:** Visit Moscow's Metro

**DAY 13: Immerse yourself in the arts**

Visit the Tretyakov Gallery — a fascinating introduction to Russian art and culture. Your Farewell Dinner will be in the hotel this evening.

**Included Features:** Tretyakov Gallery visit

**DAY 14: Depart for home**

After breakfast, check out of your hotel and depart for the Moscow airport for your flight home.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are traveling in 2022, the itinerary and included features may vary slightly. Details are available online at [www.vantagetravel.com/RMS22](http://www.vantagetravel.com/RMS22)

32 included features and Cultural Connections — a value of \$2,180 per person!

**SAVE UP TO 6% WITH SMARTPAY**

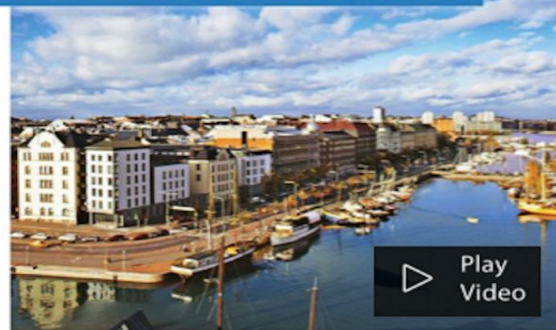
on your base tour, extensions, airfare, and more! For details, visit [www.vantagetravel.com/smartpay](http://www.vantagetravel.com/smartpay)

# Customize Your Journey

## HELSINKI, FINLAND

4 Days Pre-Trip from only \$1,449 per person — just \$362 a day!

**FREE SINGLE SUPPLEMENT** — a value of up to \$449!



Play Video

This extension may not be available on all departures. Free Single Supplement — a value of up to \$449. Limited availability. Prices subject to change. See website for complete details.

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: Fly to Helsinki

Today you'll depart the U.S. on an overnight flight bound for Finland's capital.

### DAY 2: Arrive in unforgettable Helsinki

Today arrive in Helsinki and if you purchased our airfare, you'll enjoy a convenient transfer to your hotel. Settle in and enjoy a Welcome Briefing and dinner.

### DAY 3: Explore the White City of the North

This morning after breakfast in your hotel, depart for an included walking tour of the metropolis known as the "White City of the North" and see the Esplanadi, Market Square, Old Market Hall, Senate Square and more. A panoramic coach tour will include a

stop at The Rock Church and Sibelius Monument. Afterwards, the rest of your day is yours to spend at leisure. Spread across various islands, peninsulas, and hidden coves, Helsinki is an unforgettable tapestry of fascinating architecture, historical treasures, and quirky charm. Perhaps you'll explore the neoclassical buildings of ornate Senate Square — Finland's Times Square — or the glittering domes of Uspenski Cathedral. Find a delicious lunch and dinner at local restaurants and cafés. Stroll through Esplanadi Park, flanked by a wide variety of shops, explore the range of Finnish art displayed at the National Gallery, or head for the city's open-air folk museum.

### Your Price Includes:

- 3 nights' accommodations at the *Deluxe Hotel Haven* (or similar)
- 5 meals: 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner
- Panoramic city tour of Helsinki
- Travel in First-Class comfort and style aboard the *Allegro Train* between St. Petersburg and Helsinki
- All transfers and baggage handling (where permitted)
- Service of a City Host and regional expert
- Tipping for drivers and local guides (excluding City Host)
- Services of the Vantage Worldwide Concierge

### DAY 4: Naval history beckons

Today you have free time to explore Helsinki independently; perhaps you'll check out nearby Porvoo, a charming medieval town with cobblestone streets that weave between historic wooden buildings. Later, gather with your fellow travelers to toast to your trip and enjoy a Farewell Drink and Farewell Dinner at a popular local restaurant.

### DAY 5: Depart for St. Petersburg

Today you'll check out of your hotel and board a train bound for St. Petersburg. Onboard, enjoy several included snacks in your deluxe train car.

## FREE INTERNATIONAL AIRFARE

Save up to \$3,998 per couple on select departures — from 150 U.S. & Canadian cities!

2021 ALL-INCLUSIVE AIRFARE	MAY 13 - AUG 26		SEP 3	
	WAS	NOW	WAS	NOW
Boston, New York, Newark, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh	\$1,599	FREE	\$1,199	FREE
Atlanta, Austin, Baltimore, Charlotte, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Houston (IAH), Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Raleigh, St. Louis, Tampa, Washington DC (IAD)	\$1,749	FREE	\$1,349	FREE
Toronto	\$1,799	FREE	\$1,399	FREE
Denver, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle	\$1,899	FREE	\$1,499	FREE
Vancouver	\$1,949	FREE	\$1,549	FREE
Chattanooga	\$1,999	FREE	\$1,599	FREE

## NEW FOR 2021! PORT CHARGES NOW INCLUDED — A VALUE OF \$93 PER PERSON!

2021 DEPARTURES & CRUISE/TOUR-ONLY PRICES m's Cruselake		A	B	SW	S
		JUNIOR SUITE WITH OUTSIDE BALCONY 188-226 sq. ft.	DELUXE CABIN WITH OUTSIDE BALCONY 166-172 sq. ft.	SINGLE ROOM WITH PICTURE WINDOW 82 sq. ft.	SINGLE ROOM WITH OUTSIDE BALCONY 82 sq. ft.
May 13	Double Price	\$7,099	\$6,299	—	—
	Single Price	—	\$9,449	\$7,499	—
Jun 8; Aug 26	Double Price	\$7,299	\$6,499	—	—
	Single Price	—	\$9,749	\$7,699	—
★ Sep 3	Double Price	\$6,699	\$5,899	—	—
	Single Price	—	\$8,849	\$7,099	—

★ = Best Value

For more information on additional dates and departure cities, please visit [www.vantagetravel.com/RMS21](http://www.vantagetravel.com/RMS21). For full terms & conditions, please visit [www.vantagetravel.com/terms](http://www.vantagetravel.com/terms).

2022 DEPARTURES & CRUISE/TOUR-ONLY PRICES m's Cruselake		A	B	SW	S
		JUNIOR SUITE WITH OUTSIDE BALCONY 188-226 sq. ft.	DELUXE CABIN WITH OUTSIDE BALCONY 166-172 sq. ft.	SINGLE ROOM WITH PICTURE WINDOW 82 sq. ft.	SINGLE ROOM WITH OUTSIDE BALCONY 82 sq. ft.
May 14	Double Price	\$7,199	\$6,399	—	—
	Single Price	—	\$9,599	\$7,599	\$6,999
May 22; Jun 1, 9; Aug 27	Double Price	\$7,399	\$6,599	—	—
	Single Price	—	\$9,899	\$7,799	\$7,199
★ Sep 4	Double Price	\$6,799	\$5,999	—	—
	Single Price	—	\$8,999	\$7,199	\$6,599

★ = Best Value

For more information on additional dates and departure cities, please visit [www.vantagetravel.com/RMS22](http://www.vantagetravel.com/RMS22). For full terms & conditions, please visit [www.vantagetravel.com/terms](http://www.vantagetravel.com/terms).

PLUS	<b>SAVE UP TO 6% WITH SMARTPAY</b> on your base tour, extensions, airfare, and more! For details, visit <a href="http://www.vantagetravel.com/smartpay">www.vantagetravel.com/smartpay</a>	<b>FREE AND REDUCED SINGLE SUPPLEMENTS</b> on select cabins — savings of up to \$7,699 — limited availability, reserve now!	<b>FLIGHT UPGRADE</b> Add business class to our all-inclusive airfare from only \$3,595 per person. Subject to availability. Call 1 888 782-6824.	<b>EARN A FULL 5% TRAVELER CREDIT</b> received upon your return, to use toward your next Vantage trip when you book within one year! (Rewards are worth 3% the following year.)

See pages 62-65 or visit [www.vantagetravel.com/ourfleet](http://www.vantagetravel.com/ourfleet) to view deck plans. Prices shown are per person and include port charges. Please see pages 66-75 for important information and additional ways to save.