



TIERRA DE 7 LARES




SAINT PETERSBURG

EXCURSIONS




Saint Petersburg subway

 2:30 Hrs


Ride the St. Petersburg subway to discover one of the most beautiful metro systems in the world. See the opulent masterpieces of underground architecture at stations such as Uprising Square, Avtovo, Kirov Plant, Admiralty, and more. Entering St. Petersburg subway, you can easily take the station with the magnificent palace hall or five-star hotel lobby. That's the idea - In Soviet times, the subway stations were built as palaces for the people.

Religion, history and power: Saint Isaac's Cathedral + the Church of the Saviour on the Spilled Blood

 4:00 Hrs


Today's option is quite unique. We will visit two of the most emblematic symbols of the city of Peter: Saint Isaac, work of the French architect Augusto Monferrand. This is the most sumptuous and grandiose of the churches of Saint Petersburg. The construction of this colossal building was an engineering challenge and lasted from 1818 to 1858. And, on the other hand the stunning Church on Spilled Blood, which was built in the early 20th century in the 'Old Russian' style, as a memorial to the Russian Emperor Alexander II. You will see the amazing 7,000 m2 of glass mosaics more than anywhere else in the world as well the magnificent marble floors and the Holy Gate, decorated in glass enamel technique, the same as used in the production of Faberge jewelry.

City tour

 3:00 Hrs


The tour will take you round the historic center of the city included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. You will see the most important sights: Nevsky Prospect, the main street; Palace Square with the imposing buildings of the Winter Palace and the General Staff Headquarters; Isaac Square with St. Isaac's Cathedral, the 4th largest in the world; Decembrists' Square with the Bronze Horseman, the symbol of the city; the Spit of Vasily Island with Rostral Columns and the Stock Exchange, the spot with the breathtaking view of the Neva River embankments and Peter and Paul Fortress, the birthplace of the city.

Hermitage: Past, present & future

 4:00 Hrs


Though you may think four hours are too much, they are not going to be enough to dig all the secrets kept in this Russian Shangri La. The tour will take you to the State Hermitage Museum, one of the world's greatest museums, which occupies six magnificent buildings situated along the embankment of the River Neva. Put together throughout two centuries and a half, the Hermitage collections of works of art (over 3,000,000 items) present the development of the world culture and art from the Stone Age to the 20th century. You will see the lavishly-decorated reception quarters of the Winter Palace, the former official residence of the Russian Emperors; the highlights of the Old Masters' Collection: Leonardo da Vinci, Titian, Rafael, Michelangelo, Rembrandt, Rubens, Van Dyck, Poussin and others and the highlights of the famous Impressionist and Post-Impressionist collections: Renoir, Monet, Cezanne, Van Gogh, Gauguin, Matisse, Picasso and others.

City tour + Fabergé Museum

 4:00 Hrs

The tour will take you round the historic center of the city included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. You will see the most important sights: Nevsky Prospect, the main street; Palace Square with the imposing buildings of the Winter Palace and the General Staff Headquarters; Isaac Square with St. Isaac's Cathedral, the 4th largest in the world; Decembrists' Square with the Bronze Horseman, the symbol of the city; the Spit of Vasily Island with Rostral Columns and the Stock Exchange, the spot with the breathtaking view of the Neva River embankments and Peter and Paul Fortress, the birthplace of the city. After having some refreshments and snack at a local cafe, we shall continue to visit the Faberge Museum. End of our services. Entrance and time at leisure.


Imperial residences: Yusupoff Palace

 3:00 Hrs

This tour will take you to the most elegant former private palace of the Counts Yusupov, where they lived from the beginning of the 19th century till the revolution of 1917. The palace is included in the Registry of the best private palaces of Europe published in London. The Yusupovs were one of the richest families not only of Russia but of Europe as well. Their annual income in the early 20th century often exceeded the income of the Russian Royal family. You will see not only the elegant and fascinating reception quarters, but you will also have a rare opportunity to look at the private rooms of the family, which preserve their original charm till nowadays. The palace is also closely associated with the name of Grigory Rasputin, as he was murdered there in December 1916, since one of the plotters was Felix Yusupov, the last owner of the palace.




Menshikov Palace

 3:00 Hrs


The Menshikov Palace - the first stone palace in the city, commissioned by the first governor of Saint Petersburg and close associate of Peter the Great Alexander Menshikov. It is the most luxurious building of St. Petersburg of Peter's time, where you will see the original interiors of the early 18th century, including the rooms decorated with the world famous Delft tiles. A must-do option for those who love history and architecture.

Suburbs of Saint Petersburg: Oranienbaum (Lomonosov)

 6:00 Hrs


Still commonly known by its post-war name of Lomonosov, the estate at Oranienbaum is the oldest of the Imperial Palaces around St. Petersburg, and also the only one not to be captured by Nazi forces during the Great Patriotic War. Founded by Prince Menshikov, Peter the Great's closest adviser, the Grand Palace is one of the most opulent examples of Petrine architecture to have survived to the present, although until very recently the palace itself has been greatly neglected. After Menshikov's death, Oranienbaum passed to the state, and was used as a hospice until, in 1743, it was presented by Empress Elizabeth to her nephew, the future Peter III. Peter made Oranienbaum his official summer residence and transformed one corner of the park, ordering the construction of a "Joke" Castle and a small citadel manned by his Holstein guards. This peculiar ensemble, called Petershtadt, was mostly demolished during Pavel's reign. Antonio Rinaldi, the Italian-born architect who also designed the Grand Palace at Gatchina and the Marble Palace in St. Petersburg, was commissioned by Peter in 1758 to build a modest stone palace next to the fortress, and this has survived.

Imperial Residences: Pavlosk

 5:00 Hrs


This tour will take you to the suburban town of Pavlovsk, named after Paul I; palaces and parks of Pavlovsk and its historical center are included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. You will visit the former summer residence of the Russian Emperor Paul I. It was given to Paul by his mother Catherine the Great to reward him for the birth of a grandson, the future tsar Alexander I. You will see the charming Great Palace, designed and decorated by the best Neoclassical architects, featuring not only the reception rooms but also the living quarters of the tsars. You will also have a walk in Pavlovsk Park, the largest landscaped park in Europe with numerous temples, colonnades and bridges. This tour can be combined with the visit to Catherine's Palace.

Imperial Residences: Catherine Palace

 3:00 Hrs


The Catherine Palace is named after Catherine I, the wife of Peter the Great, who ruled Russia for two years after her husband's death. Originally a modest two-storey building commissioned by Peter for Catherine in 1717, the Catherine Palace owes its awesome grandeur to their daughter, Empress Elizabeth, who chose Tsarskoe Selo as her chief summer residence. Starting in 1743, the building was reconstructed by four different architects, before Bartholomeo Rastrelli, Chief Architect of the Imperial Court, was instructed to completely redesign the building on a scale to rival Versailles. The resultant palace, completed in 1756, is nearly 1km in circumference, with elaborately decorated blue-and-white facades featuring gilded atlantes, caryatids and pilasters designed by German sculptor Johann Franz Dunker, who also worked with Rastrelli on the palace's original interiors.

Imperial Residences: Peterhof

 5:00 Hrs

Peterhof is the monument of world architecture and the palace and park art. Peterhof includes the Palace and Park Ensemble of XVIII-XIX centuries — the former royal countryside residence. Peterhof is the City of Fountains — it contains 173 fountains and 4 cascades — located 29 km from the city on the southern coast of the Gulf of Finland. Each year, up to 3 million people come here to enjoy the splendor of numerous fountains, unique parks and pavilions of Peterhof. The Grand Peterhof Palace sits majestically, reigning over the gardens below and a channel runs from the Grand Cascade straight out to the sea. The Grand Palace and the Grand Cascade are the centerpiece of the entire Peterhof complex.


Neighboring cities: Pskov

 5:00 Hrs

This city is located at the confluence of the Velikaya and Pskovo Rivers, and was mentioned for the first time in The Tale of Bygone Years - the earliest extant ancient Russian chronicle dating from the beginning of the XII century. Up to the beginning of the XVIII century, Pskov was one of the largest cities not only in Russia but also in Europe. For Russia, Pskov was a trade and defensive center - its fortress, consisting of five defensive rings, made the city virtually impregnable. Over the centuries-long history, the city experienced a lot of fights and battles, but was captured only once, and occupied twice during the First and Second World War.




Suburbs of Saint Petersburg: Vyborg

 8:00 - 9:00 Hrs

For centuries the area around Vyborg saw the bitter rivalry between Russia and its neighbors. Just 30km from the Finnish border, Vyborg was fought over for centuries, which explains its splendid 13th century castle. The Vyborg Castle, built in 1293 on a small island Linnan-Saari off the Baltic coast, was a powerful Swedish stronghold. The castle was blocking a major trade route between the Russian merchant city of Novgorod and the Baltic Sea, through the Ladoga Lake via the Vuoksa River and the Russian fortress Karela (the modern-day town of Priozersk).

Other sights of interest include Monrepos, one of Russia's finest landscape gardens, and the charming Old Town.

Suburbs of Saint Petersburg: Kronshtadt

 5:00 - 6:00 Hrs

Kronshtadt is a real pearl of war history of Russia. Founded by Peter the Great, Kronstadt once might have been a capital of the Russian Empire during the Great Northern War with Sweden. The first Russian navy base defense system was founded here – the naval Maginot Line.

At the times of The Red Revolution drama Kronshtadt was a centre of rebellions, and in 1921 the very first anti-communist uprising took place here.

Neighboring cities: Veliky Novgorod

 10:00 - 12:00 Hrs

Novgorod the Great (or “Veliky Novgorod” in Russian) is one of the oldest Russian cities, first mentioned in 859 AD. The city is located on the Volkhov River, which outflows from the Ilmen Lake. By the 9th century, Novgorodians invited a Viking chieftain, Rurik, to govern as their Duke. Finally, Duke Rurik became the founder of the Russian state, and the Rurik dynasty was the ruling dynasty of Russia up to 1598 AD. Veliky Novgorod had played a big role in the dissemination of culture, literacy, the development of Russian architecture, painting and applied arts. By the beginning of the 18th century, Novgorod had become an international shopping and trade centre, due to its geographic location on the trade route “from the Varangians to the Greeks” (from the Baltic states and Scandinavia, eastward and through the Volga region to the South).

* La duración es aproximada. Las excursiones panorámicas no incluyen entrada a ningún museo y/o atracción. A destacar que los servicios de los guías comienzan desde encuentro en el vestíbulo del hotel, y el recorrido hasta los puntos de interés se considera tiempo de la excursión.

“

DEAR TRAVELERS,

YOU SHOULD ALWAYS KEEP IN MIND THAT OUR PROGRAMS CAN BE ADAPTED TO YOUR REQUIREMENTS.

YOU CAN ADD/ DELETE ATTRACTIONS ACCORDING TO YOUR WISHES. ADJUST EVERY SINGLE DETAIL IN A WAY THAT IT IS YOU WHO DEFINE EACH AND EVERY SINGLE ACTION -BE YOUR OWN GUIDE AND LET US BE YOUR PERSONAL ASSISTANT. THAT SIMPLE!

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, AS WELL AS TO WELCOME YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY SOON!

WARM REGARDS

TIERRA DE ZARES