

Preliminary cultural program

An attractive social program is organized during the conference for participants and accompanying persons to experience the attractions of the city and surrounding areas.

Date and time	Excursion	Price per person in RUR
June 29, 2008 Sunday 11 a.m - 2 p.m.	City tour with visiting St. Peter and Paul fortress	600
June 30, 2008 Monday 11 a.m - 3 p.m.	Temples of St. Petersburg	1300
July 2, 2008 Wednesday 11 a.m - 6 p.m.	Tour to Tzarskoe selo - guided walking tour around Catherine park; visit to the Catherine palace (with Amber room); Course lunch; Tour to Pavlovsk – visit to the Pavlovsk Palace.	2800
July 3, 2008 Thursday 8 a.m - 9 p.m.	Novgorod - tour around anciant city with visiting Sofia Cathedral, cofe-break, tour to Saint Yuriy Moastery, lunch	3600

Price includes:

Transport (western type coach, air-conditioning, microphone);
English-speaking guide;
Entrance fee to the museums.

All the tours will take place only in case of not less than 10 participants.

Sightseeing city tour

There is no other way to get an impression about the City of St.Petersburg, than to take a short ride on a bus with an expert guide. The tour includes picturesque sightseeing peculiarities that are most favored by tourists from the world over.

Naturally, it's Nevsky Avenue, the main city's thoroughfare, with luxurious shopping centers, restaurants, churches and cathedrals, banks and offices.

You'll invariably see and admire the Palace Square, make a stop by the beautifully decorated Church of Resurrection (known also as Saviour-on the Blood Church), Saint Isaac's Cathedral and Peter and Paul fortress with Cathedral where all Russian emperors were buried.



You will also be able to pass by the Hermitage, the world known museum, the Admiralty and the Bronze Horseman - the monument to the founder of the City - Peter I.

And, of course, you will stop on the Spit of Basil's Island – this spot gives an amazing panoramic view of the granite embankments of the Niva river.

You will learn a lot about the history and modern life of the city. The tour is quite cognitive and very spectacular.

Peter and Paul Fortress



The St. Peter and Paul Fortress was founded on 27 May 1703 to defend St.Petersburg against enemy raids. From the middle of the 18th century it contained Russian political prison. In addition to viewing the ancient fortifications on the grounds of the fortress, one can visit Peter and Paul cathedral, designed by D.Trezzini, which is the city's tallest building (the height of the spire is 121.8 meter); the house of the "grandfather of the Russian navy", where exact copy of Peter I's little boat is kept and the Mint.

Located within the St. Peter and Paul Cathedral is the burial vault of Peter the Great and other Russian tsars.

The museum in Trubetskoy Bastion Prison holds expositions of "The History of St.Petersburg", "The History of the Imperial Mint", and "Pechatnya" (Printing Workshop). The fortress also includes The Museum on Cosmonautics and Missilery, and the excursion route entitled "Panorama of the Neva" - over the roofs of the fortress' bastions.



The Temples of St. Petersburg

Built from 1818-1858, [St. Isaac's Cathedral](#) is the largest Orthodox church in St. Petersburg. The gilded cupola of the Cathedral, which dominates the skyline of the city, stands 101.5 meters in the air making it the fifth highest cathedral in Europe. The colonnade offers visitors the option of climbing the 300 stairs to the observation deck to see the breathtaking view of the city. The facades of the building are decorated with 112 monolithic columns made from Karelian granite. The outside of the building is covered in beautiful sculptures including 24 monumental bronze angels.

Today, in addition to being open to the public as a museum, the cathedral continues to offer festive services.





The Cathedral of the Resurrection, which is also known as the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood, was erected in memory of Tsar Alexander II. On March 1, 1881, the Tsar was assassinated by a terrorist (I. Grinevitskij) on the exact spot of the church's current location. The church was designed by Alfred Parland and was built from 1883-1907 with money donated by the royal family as well as private donors. Both the inside and outside of the building are decorated with ornate mosaics designed by a group of prominent Russian artists.

During the 1930s the church was closed due to the destruction taking place nationwide as the Bolsheviks stormed and ruined many churches. The Cathedral of the Resurrection was reopened in August of 1997 after almost 3 decades of careful restoration. Today the Cathedral is fully restored and remains open to visitors.



The Kazan Cathedral named after the supposedly miraculous Kazan icon. It is the main Cathedral of St. Petersburg, one of the largest cathedrals of Russia and the most magnificent temples of St. Petersburg (architect A. Voronihin). The main facade of the Cathedral is overlooking the Nevsky prospect. In the cathedral are resting the remains of field-marshal M. Kutuzov, the great Russian general.

Pushkin



Tsarskoe Selo (Royal Village), located 25 km south of St. Petersburg, first appeared in the 18C as the summer residence of the Russian tsars. In 1918 the town was renamed into Detskoe Selo (Children's Village). In 1937 the name was changed into Pushkin, to commemorate the centenary of the great Russian poet's tragic death. Created for two centuries by many prominent architects, the unique architectural ensemble of Pushkin is world famed for its elegant palaces and pavilions, landscape parks and ponds, 18-century marble statues and historic obelisks.

This "town of Muses" inspired many celebrated Russian poets, painters and musicians to create their renowned masterpieces in music and art. In 1752-1756 a remarkable Bolshoy Catherine Palace - the striking example of baroque architecture - was built by architect Rastrelli, and numerous entertainment pavilions were erected in the park, including «Hall on the Island», Sliding Hill, Hermitage and Grotto. The splendor of new architectural ensemble immediately caused everybody's admiration and delight. Tsarskoe Selo became the place for official receptions of Russian nobility and representatives of foreign states, who were visiting Russia with diplomatic missions.



During the reign of Catherine the Great further significant alterations were made to the palace and park. The Catherine Park was extended with the layout of the garden landscaped in the English style. In the palace itself part of baroque interiors with abundance of gilded moldings and sculptures were completely altered by the Scottish architect Charles Cameron in the spirit of increasingly fashionable Classical style. A series of monuments glorifying Russian triumphal victories in the Russo-Turkish and other wars were put up in the newly designed part of the park. Among them are Columns of Chesma and Morea, Kagul Obelisk, all designed by architect Rinaldi, and monumental Tower Ruin designed by architect Velten.

Pavlovsk



This is the superb palace-and-park ensemble of the late 18 – early 19 centuries which was used as a summer residence of the Russian emperor Paul I and his family. The landscape park, one of the largest in Europe? Covers the area of 600 ha. The works on the palace-and-park ensemble lasted for 50 years. Ch. Cameron, V. Brenna, G. Guarenghi, A. Voronikhin, C. Rossi and other great architects had worked there.

The main collection of the Pavlovsky Palace were formed due to the trip of its owners over Europe in 1781-1782. They visited workshops of well known artists, ordering and purchasing, paintings, furniture, bronze articles, silk fabrics, china sets, a lot of antic sculptures from Italy, etc. They also brought to Russia gifts from European royal courts. The museum displays excellent portraits by Russian artists and a number of landscape paintings and drawings on Pavlovsk. Private rooms of Empress Maria Fedorovna, decorated in the beginning of the 19 century, are opened to the public.



Veliky Novgorod - the true heart of Russia!



Each country has town of particular significance in its history. For Russia, Veliky Novgorod is just such a town - a book celebrating Russia's origins. It was here on the Volkhov river, at its source in the Ilmen Lake, that the political and a cultural centre of the Slav, Finno-Ugrian and Baltic peoples was the first founded. The town played an essential role in the formation of the Russian State and its democratic republican tradition.

First mentioned in 859, Veliky Novgorod is the oldest town in Russia. It is also the only town in Russia that has preserved so many outstanding 10th to 17th centuries historic sites and architectural monuments, recognised as being of tremendous importance for the world. UNESCO has classified Veliky Novgorod's monuments as part of our World Cultural Heritage. It is perhaps the finest city in which to discover Russia's true history and culture.



Deadline for sending request for excursions is **May 26, 2008**

Deadline for payment the cultural program is **June 2, 2008**