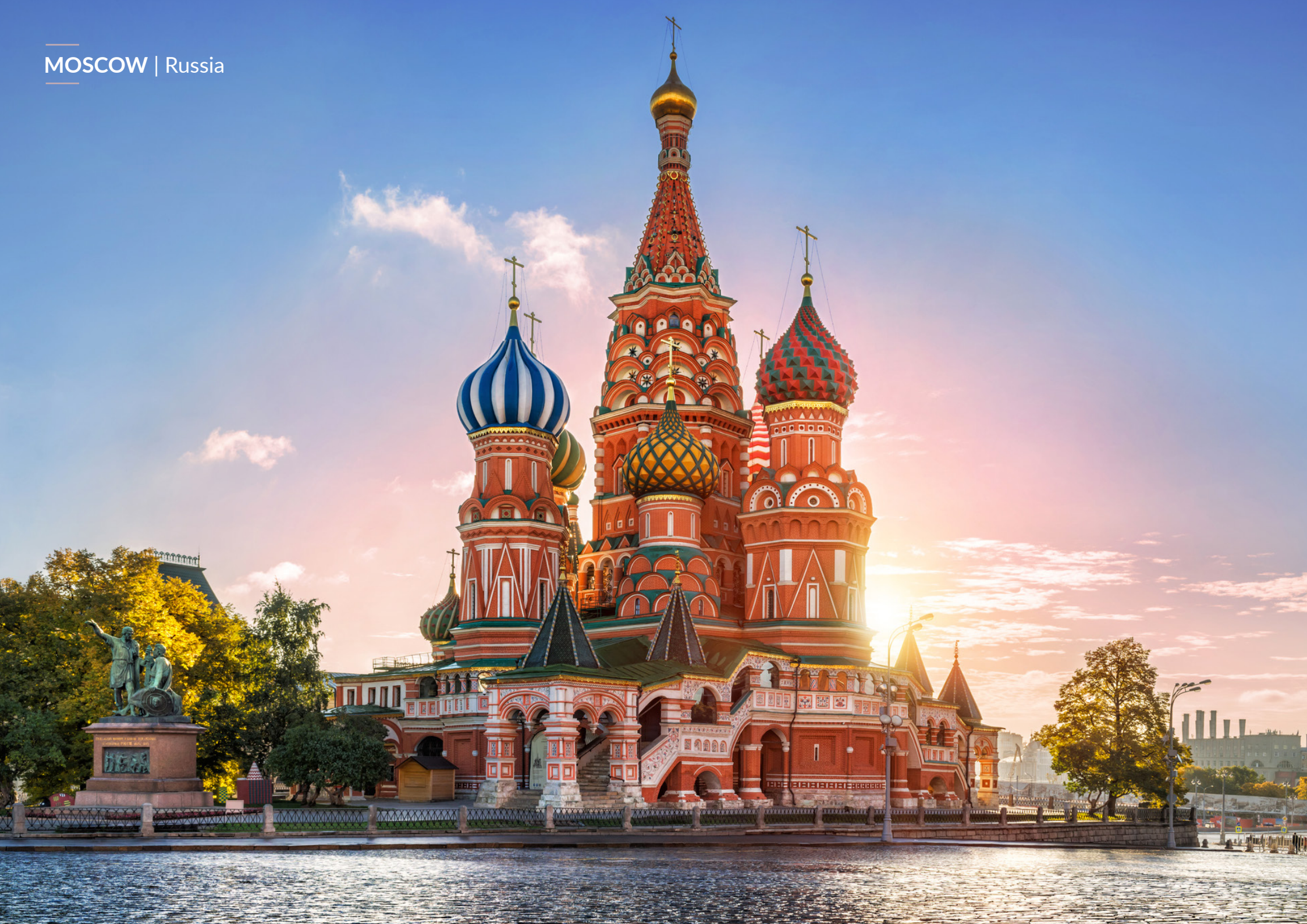
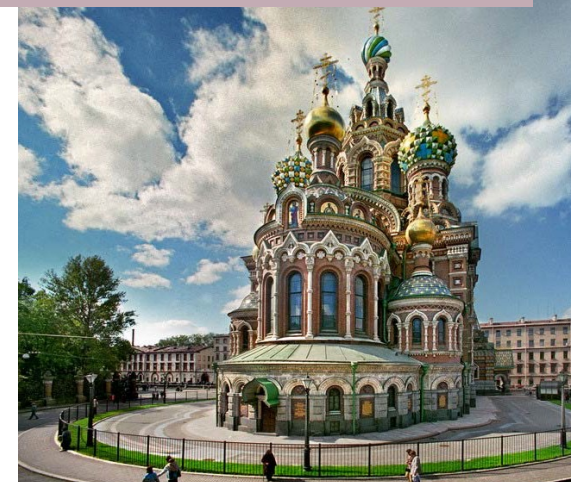


SAMPLE JOURNEY TO

RUSSIA

GILTEDGE





WELCOME TO RUSSIA

If ancient walled fortresses, glittering palaces and swirly-spined churches are what you're after, focus on European Russia. Here Moscow and St Petersburg are the must-see destinations, twin repositories of eye-boggling national treasures, political energies and contemporary creativity. Within easy reach of these cities are charming historical towns and villages, such as Veliky Novgorod, Pskov and Suzdal, where the vistas dotted with onion domes and lined with gingerbread cottages measure up to the rural Russia of popular imagination.



GETTING THERE

ACCOMMODATION



ST REGIS NIKOLSKAYA HOTEL, MOSCOW

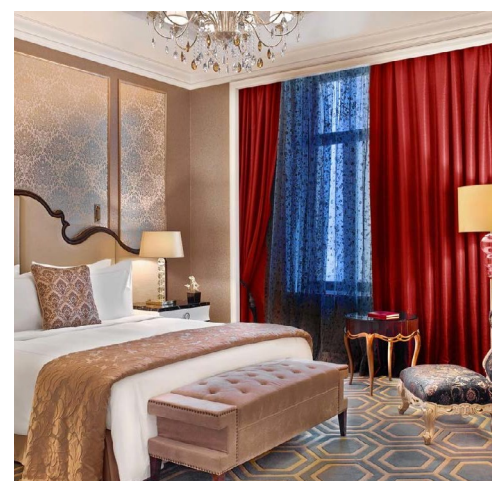
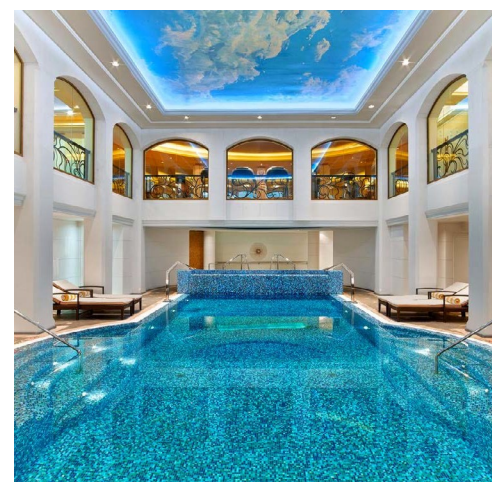
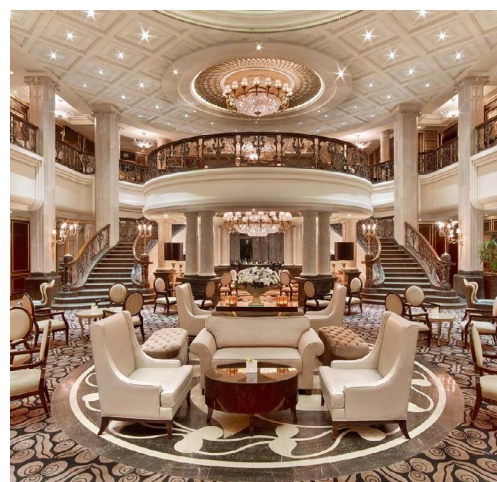
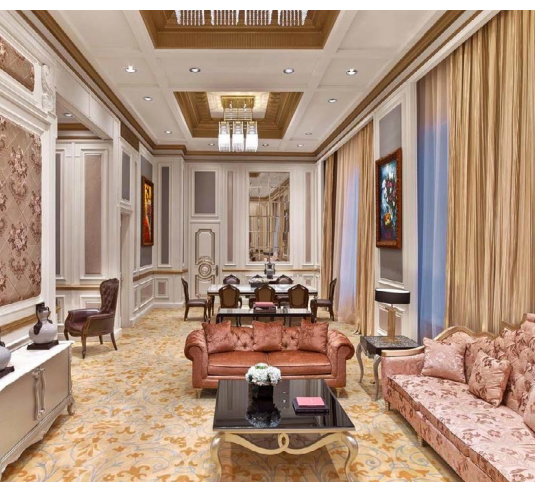
FEATURES

This hotel offers a central location in the heart of Moscow, right on Lubyanka Square, a 10-minute walk from the Kremlin. Rooms with complimentary personalised St. Regis Butler Service and Wi-Fi are featured at St. Regis Moscow Nikolskaya.

The elegant, air-conditioned hotel rooms and suites are decorated in beige and brown colours. Every room comes complete with a flat-screen TV, a minibar, a seating area and a private bathroom with bathrobes and slippers.

Breakfasts are served in the Italian A Tavola Restaurant. Guests can also have Russian snacks and dishes from the Wok menu at Orlov Lobby Bar and Lounge, as well as enjoy evening champagne.

Lubyanka Metro Station is only steps away. Belorussky Train Station is 4 km from St. Regis Moscow Nikolskaya, and Sheremetyevo International Airport is a 35-minute express train ride from this station.

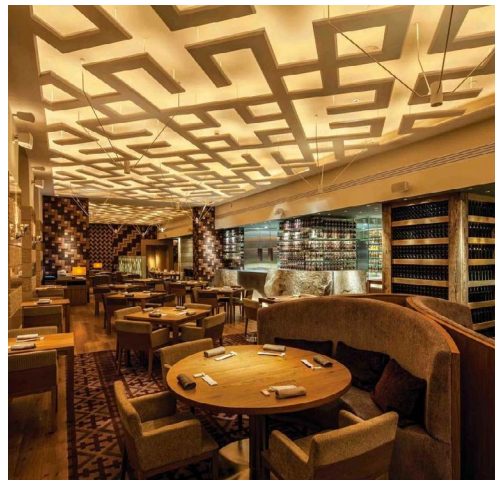
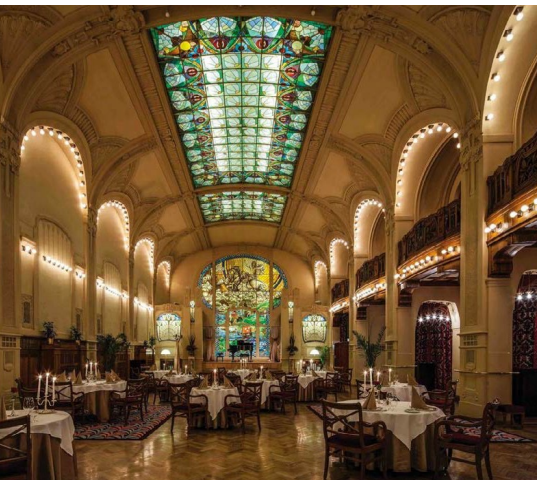




GRAND HOTEL EUROPE ST PETERSBURG

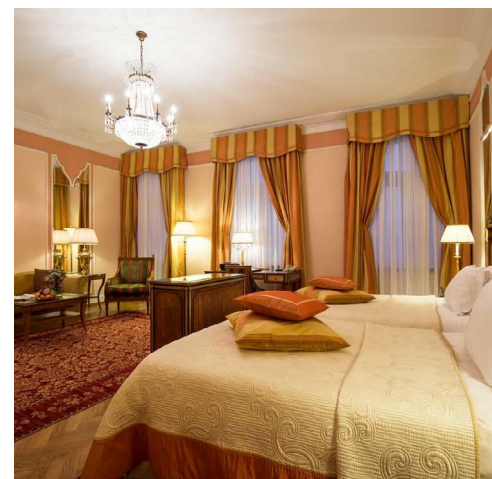
FEATURES

Set in a stunning central location of St. Petersburg is this grand hotel that offers elegant accommodation in a fantastic setting.



Belmond Grand Hotel Europe provides luxurious living in rooms that are gracefully designed and equipped with all modern facilities you require. Satellite TV and minibar are offered in air-conditioned rooms. The private bathroom is fitted with bathrobes, slippers, hairdryer and complimentary toiletries.

To ensure a stress free stay, the property offers concierge service, tour desk and ticket service.



There are many nearby theatres, museums and attractions including the Arts Square, the Admiralty, and the Tsar's former Winter Palace.

After a day's exploration, return to Belmond Grand Hotel Europe and select one of the 6 restaurants and/or cafés for delightful cuisines and refreshing drinks.

EXCURSIONS

DAY 2

Welcome dinner at Ruski Restaurant.

The highest restaurant in Europe with Russian cuisine and breathtaking views is situated in Moscow City. The restaurant with a panoramic view occupies the 85th floor of the "OKO" skyscraper in Moscow City and it seems to be floating in the air - the space is bright and breathing. The elegant and modern atmosphere of Ruski perfectly corresponds to the spirit of the restaurant, offering its guests traditional Russian cuisine from chef Alexander Volkov-Medvedev.



DAY 3

Guided tour and lunch at The Bunker 42. A nondescript neoclassical building on a quiet street in the centre of the city looks very ordinary. This building was just a shell and served as an entry to the 7000 sq-meter space – one of the main secret objects of the USSR. The underground complex was built here in the 1950s in connection with an early threat of nuclear war. It is a museum now. Your private tour will include a welcome glass of vodka with snacks, a welcoming by a military choir and 3 course set lunch.



DAY 3

Half day guided tour of the Kremlin.

The Moscow Kremlin is the best known of the kremlins (Russian citadels) and includes five palaces, four cathedrals, and the enclosing Kremlin Wall with Kremlin towers.

Also within this complex is the Grand Kremlin Palace that was formerly the tsar's Moscow residence. The complex now serves as the official residence of the President of the Russian Federation and as a museum.



DAY 4

Dinner at Sanduny Restaurant.

The restaurant "Sanduny" is an essential part of the baths complex. There are two halls in the restaurant, each of which has got its unique interior. The restaurant menu will surprise you with the variety of dishes of different cuisines – traditional Russian, Middle-Asia Uzbek and oriental Chinese – and the hospitable staff will help you make your choice.



DAY 6

Train journey from Moscow to St Petersburg.

Sapsan is a high-speed electric train that operates on Moscow to St. Petersburg and Moscow to Nizhny Novgorod routes. Business class is arranged in rows of four with an aisle in the middle. Each seat has an adjustable back rest, foot rest; individual lamp, 220V socket, and access video and audio programs.



DAY 7

Ballet performance at the Marinsky Theatre.

St. Petersburg's preeminent opera and ballet venue, and home to the world-renowned Kirov Ballet, Mariinsky Theatre has long been at the center of the city's rich arts scene. Built in 1859 by architect Albert Cavo and named after Empress Maria Alexandrovna, the theatre saw a host of prestigious performers grace its stage during its pre-Revolution heyday, including dancers like Vatslav Nizhinsky, Matilda Kshesinskaya and Anna Pavlova.



DAY 5

Half day guided visit to the Star City.

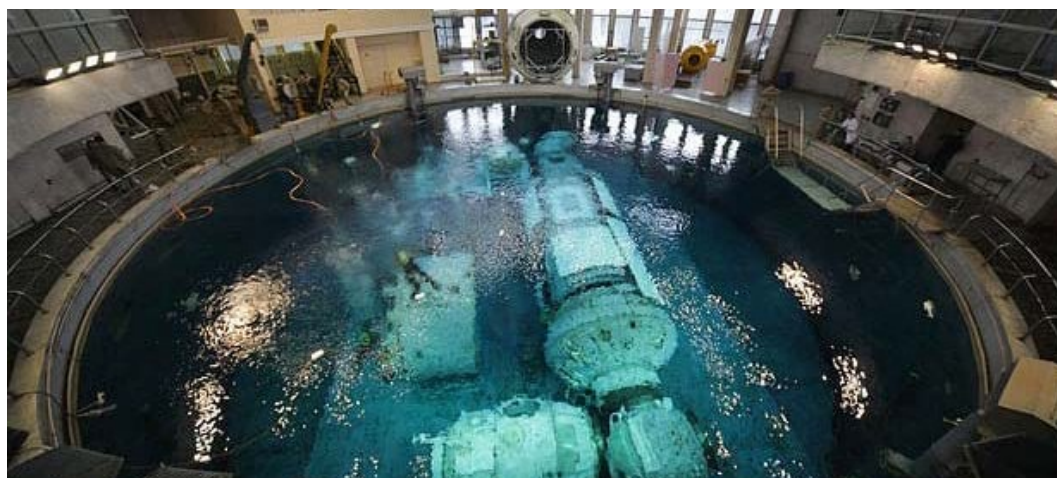
Star City (Russian: Zvyozdny Gorodok) is a highly restricted military facility northeast of Moscow. In the Soviet era the town was a highly confidential, secure area, isolated from the rest of the world. Today, many Russian cosmonauts live in Star City with their families. The town has its own post office, shops, railway station and a museum of space travel. Experience a unique opportunity to visit the place where the history of space travel began, where Yuri Gagarin began his progress towards the first space flight in human history.



DAY 6

Dinner at Russian Vodka Room Restaurant.

Russian Vodka Room №1 was opened in 2008 and is ever since the only restaurant of Russian cuisine where you can taste the dishes from different historical periods and over 200 kinds of Russian vodka. The restaurant is a unique place where different historical eras meet to create a special ambience.





DAY 8

Half day guided St Petersburg visit. Canapes and cocktails on board canal cruise.

Explore St. Petersburg by land and water on a private canal cruise and walking tour. With a personal guide, join a public boat to see the 'Venice of the North' from its waterways. Pass bridges and landmarks like the Winter Palace and Peter and Paul Fortress as you learn about their history. Then, take a private walking tour around central St. Petersburg, admiring St. Isaac's Cathedral, the Church on the Spilled Blood, and more.



DAY 9

Farewell dinner at Russian Empire Restaurant.

The Russian Empire Restaurant is housed in one of the oldest and most luxurious mansions of St. Petersburg, in the Stroganov Palace that stands in Nevsky Prospect, the main street of the city. The three luxurious dining rooms each have their own individual atmospheres and are all decorated genuinely in the finest style with 24 Carat Gold Cutlery and Gianni Versace Porcelain.



DAY 9

Visit to the Hermitage Museum.

Start your tour from the Jordan Staircase of the Winter Palace. The glimmer of the golden stucco work and the dazzling whiteness of the marble statues will have you in awe. See the famed mechanized Peacock Clock, made by a celebrated English clockmaker in the middle 18th century and presented to Catherine the Great by her favorite prince, Grigory Potemkin & the Raphael Gallery.



PROPOSED ITINERARY

DAY	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
DAY 1			<p>Guests to meet at Johannesburg International Airport, check-in at the Emirates Airlines counters.</p> <p>22h20: Emirates flight departure from Johannesburg. Full service flight.</p> <p>Overnight: On board flight.</p>
	<p>Breakfast on board flight.</p> <p>08h20: Arrival at Dubai International Airport - remain in transit for onward connecting flight (8 hour flight duration).</p> <p>09h35: Emirates flight departure from Dubai.</p> <p>Full service flight.</p>	<p>13h50: Arrival at Moscow International Airport (5 hour 15 minute flight duration).</p> <p>Proceed through immigration and luggage collection.</p> <p>Transfer to the hotel.</p> <p>Group check in at the hotel - at the Rooftop Terrace.</p>	<p>Welcome dinner at Ruski Restaurant.</p> <p>Overnight: St Regis Nikolskaya Hotel.</p>
DAY 2			
DAY 3	<p>Breakfast at the hotel.</p> <p>Half Day Guided Tour of The Kremlin.</p>	<p>Transfer from the Kremlin to lunch venue by historic underground Metro.</p> <p>Lunch at The Bunker 42.</p> <p>Transfer back to city centre by coach.</p>	<p>Evening at leisure.</p> <p>Overnight: St Regis Nikolskaya Hotel.</p>

DAY 4	Breakfast at the hotel.		Dinner at Sanduny Restaurant.
	Full day at leisure.		Overnight: St Regis Nikolskaya Hotel.
DAY 5	Breakfast at the hotel.	Half Day Guided Visit to the Star City.	Evening at leisure.
		Transfer back to city centre by coach.	Overnight: St Regis Nikolskaya Hotel.
DAY 6	Breakfast at the hotel.	15h00: Arrival at St Petersburg.	Dinner at Russian Vodka Room Restaurant.
	Check out formalities.	Group transfer from the station to the hotel by coach.	Overnight: Grand Hotel Europe St Petersburg.
	Coach transfer to train station.		
	11h00: Train journey from Moscow to St Petersburg	Group check in at the hotel -room keys and mini vodka shot hidden inside frozen ice blocks with miniature pick axe's (guests have to chop block open to access their key card).	
DAY 7	Breakfast at the hotel.		Ballet Performance at the Mariinsky Theatre.
	Full day at leisure.		Overnight: Grand Hotel Europe St Petersburg.
	Lunch at leisure.		

DAY 8	Breakfast at the hotel.		Evening at leisure.
	Half day Guided St Petersburg Visit including guided Segway city tour.		Overnight: Grand Hotel Europe St Petersburg.
	Remainder of the day at leisure.		
DAY 9	Breakfast at the hotel.		Hermitage Museum Visit.
	Full day at leisure.		Farewell Dinner at Russian Empire Restaurant.
	Lunch at leisure.		Overnight: Grand Hotel Europe St Petersburg.
DAY 10	Breakfast at the hotel.	Enjoy the afternoon at leisure.	19h00: Coach transfer to the airport.
	Morning at leisure.		Check in at St Petersburg International Airport.
	11h00: Check-out from hotel.		23h55: Emirates flight departure from St Petersburg.
			This is a full service flight.
			Overnight: Flight.
DAY 11	06h55: Arrival at Dubai International Airport - remain in transit for onward connecting flight (6 hour flight duration).	16h25: Arrival at Johannesburg International Airport (8 hours 20 minute flight duration).	
	10h05: Flight departure from Dubai (daylight flight)	Proceed through immigration, luggage collection and custom clearance.	
		End of event.	

GILTEDGE