

Grand Peterhof, Tsarkae Selo, Red Square, Sergiev Posad

Book Now www.holylandtc.com (866) 339-3323

## Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Please join us on a pilgrimage to the incredible Baltic Port City of St. Petersburg and Moscow, the cosmopolitan capital of Russia. We will visit St. Catherine's Basilica, the oldest Catholic Church in the Russian Federation, and the only church with the title of basilica. We will also visit The Church of the Resurrection with its incredible mosaics. We will enjoy daily mass together and grow in faith with our fellow pilgrims.

You will not want to miss out on such a great opportunity. Sign up now!

Sincerely, Holy Land Travel Center

# Day by Day Itinerary

June 27 Day 1: Depart USA: Today we board our flights to Russia with beverages and snacks served aloft.

June 28 Day 2: Arrive St. Petersburg: Today we arrive to St. Petersburg and upon arrival we are met by our Holy Land Travel Center Representative. After customs formalities, we continue to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Overnight: St. Petersburg (Dinner)

June 29 Day 3: St Petersburg: We begin this morning with the celebration of Mass at St Catherine's Basilica, the oldest Catholic church in Russia. We then embark on a St Petersburg City Tour, including a visit to the SS Peter and Paul Cathedral with its landmark needle-thin spire - the highest in the city and an unusual feature for a Russian Orthodox Church. Inside are the tombs of Peter the Great, Catherine the Great as well as Nicholas II and his family. Here we also see the Trubetskoy Bastion and Prison; this fortress is the oldest building in St Petersburg which saw its last prisoner in 1921. An example of how different architectural styles can be combined is evident in Palace Square. Lining this main square, we see the Baroque Winter Palace and the former Imperial Army building in the classical style among other buildings including one of the largest and oldest museums in the world, the Hermitage. Here we will view Leonardo's "Madonna Litta", Titian's "Penitent Magdalene", Canova's sculpture "The Three Graces", "The Prodigal Son" by Rembrandt as well as works by a hundred other great masters.

Overnight: St. Petersburg (Breakfast, Dinner)

June 30 Day 4: Grand Peterhof Palace: Today we travel out to explore the World Heritage listed Summer Palace or the Grand Peterhof Palace which is a series of palaces, grottoes, fountains, cascades and gardens. See also the famous statue of the founder of St Petersburg – Peter the Great, the "Bronze Horseman" built by order of Catherine the Great. In the afternoon we will visit the great colonnaded arms of Kazan Cathedral (built to an enormous scale between 1801-1811) whose design was influenced by St Peters Basilica and Bernini's colonnade in Rome. The cathedral houses the State Museum of Religious History. Enjoy a visit to the Church of the Saviour on Blood which features over 7,500 square metres of mosaics, claimed to be more than any other church in the world. Overnight: St. Petersburg (Breakfast, Dinner)

July 1 Day 5: Tsarkoe Selo, Catherine Palace: Tsarkoe Selo, an estate boasting a large landscaped park centered on the magnificent Catherine Palace. Named after Catherine I, the wife of Peter the Great, the building was reconstructed in the 18th century on a scale to rival Versailles. Continue to St Isaac's Cathedral designed to hold 14,000 standing worshippers. Admire the dome of St Isaac's which is plated with pure gold and a dominant piece of the St Petersburg skyline.

Overnight: St. Petersburg (Breakfast, Dinner)

July 2 Day 6: St. Petersburg to Moscow: This morning we will visit The Church of the Resurrection, also known as the "Savior on Spilled Blood", which was built in memory of Alexander II who was assassinated in 1881. The highlight of both the interior and exterior of the Cathedral are its mosaic collection based on the paintings of Vasnetsov, Nesterov, and Vrubel. With a total area of 23130 square feet, it is one of the largest mosaic collections in Europe. Continue to visit the Alexander Nevsky Monastery – at the heart of the Russian Orthodox Church. We will hear about its history and challenges particularly through the last 100 years. In the afternoon we depart St Petersburg to board our train to Moscow. On arrival we will be transferred to our hotel for check-in.

Overnight: Moscow (Breakfast, Dinner)

Tsarkae Selo St. Catherine's Palace



#### **Grand Peterhof Palace**



to live his life here as a monk and was soon joined by others. The monastery grew in importance; pilgrims came to see the relics of St Sergius as they do today, and Orthodox clergy come to study in the lavra's seminary. The town of Sergiev Posad is also famous for another reason – it is the birthplace of the Russian doll (matryoshka). The town still has its own doll factory and the round painted wooden dolls have become famous and much sought after all over the world. We return to Moscow in time for dinner.

Overnight: Moscow (Breakfast, Dinner)

July 5 Day 9: Moscow: After breakfast, we will enter the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, the largest Catholic church in Russia. The church dates from 1901 but was closed in 1938 as part of the Marxist-Lenin ideology promotion of state atheism. World War II brought the threat of demolition and after the war it was used as a warehouse and a hostel. With the fall of communism in 1991 it was restored to a church in 1996, elevated to a cathedral in 2002 and re-consecrated in 2005; finally, after 75 years of non-religious use this place of worship is now being used for its intended purpose Final afternoon in Moscow at leisure.

Overnight: Moscow (Breakfast, Dinner)

**July 6 Day 10: Depart Moscow: Flights Home:** Today we depart Moscow with memories and keepsakes that will last a lifetime.

July 3 Day 7: Red Square Day: Our tour of Moscow proper begins today with Mass at the Church of Saint Louis des Français - this was the only Catholic Church not closed during the Communist rule. Continue to visit Red Square, mostly famous for the military parades demonstrating to the world the military might of the Soviet Union. View the Kremlin Wall, where from 1917 it became a tradition to bury Soviet heroes by and in the wall. Leaders Joseph Stalin, Leonid Brezhnev, Yuri Chernenko and Yuri Gagarin (the first man in space) are some of the people resting here. The charming Kazan Cathedral on this square is a faithful reconstruction from 1990 after Joseph Stalin had it demolished in 1936. Still by the square, we see the famous-coloured domes of St Basil's Cathedral (now a museum) as it is commonly known, however the official name is "The Cathedral of the Intercession of the Virgin by the Moat." The circular stone platform Lobnoe Mesto which stands before St Basil's was constructed in 1598 and used for proclamations; on religious holidays, a lectern was added making the whole square an open cathedral. The Lenin Mausoleum was erected on the square to house the body of Vladimir Lenin - the Father of the Revolution. Directly opposite the Mausoleum is Russia's most famous shopping mall - the State Department Store, GUM. reconstructed Resurrection Gate and the Iberian Chapel house Moscow's most sacred site with the 17th century miraculous painting of the "Iberian Virgin" held to have healing powers. See the famous Statue of Minin and Pozharsky commemorating Prince Dmitry Pozharsky and Kuzma Minin the leaders of the militia that repelled the Polish invasion in 1612. The Cathedral of the Assumption or Dormition Cathedral with its five Domes representing Christ and the four Evangelists is the oldest and most important church in the Kremlin. Within its walls coronations and installations have occurred and the tombs of many patriarchs are here. Admire the magnificent Iconostasis and the Holy Doors. On the Eastern side of Cathedral square is the 81-metre Ivan the Great Bell Tower - tallest building in all of Russia for almost 400 years. Ivan the Great ordered a bell tower for the Archangel, Assumption and Annunciation Cathedrals. There are 21 bells in the tower and belfry; the largest being the Assumption Bell weighing 70 tons. In 1918 the last Easter service in the Kremlin took place and the bells of Ivan the Great did not ring again until 1992. Next door is the Kremlin Armory Museum to see the sumptuous collection of jewelry, tableware and icons. A highlight is the large case of Faberge eggs including the famous Siberian Railway egg. Overnight: Moscow (Breakfast, Dinner)

July 4 Day 8: Moscow & Surrounds: Today we journey north past the outskirts of the city as Russian Orthodox pilgrims have done for centuries to the town of Sergiev Posad and the site of one of the holiest places in all of Russia – the stunning Holy Trinity St Sergius Lavra. It was founded by St Sergius of Ranonezh (c.1321 – 1391) a monk who from childhood seemed destined for holiness. It is said that even as a baby he refused to eat certain foods according to fasting days and that as an almost illiterate child he had a vision from a hooded monk who taught him to read the bible. He set off

# **Pilgrimage Details**

### PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy with base airfare

\$2999.00\*

\*Discount check price

#### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL EXPENSES (APPLIED TO FINAL INVOICE)

• Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff \$100.00

#### **OPTIONS:**

- For a single room: add \$500
- Land only option: \$2299 (no flights or airport transfers included)
- Travel Insurance: add \$174

 FIRST DEPOSIT
 \$500
 Due: Now

 SECOND PAYMENT
 \$1249
 Due: January 28, 2022

 THIRD PAYMENT
 \$1000
 Due: March 29, 2022

 FINAL PAYMENT
 REMAINING
 Due: May 13, 2022

### PRICE INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip airfaire from Albuquerque, NM (ABQ)
- All excursions
- · 8 nights' accommodations
- · Tour guide / Tour escort
- Meals per itinerary

Price does not include: Lunches, drinks with meals

Tour Number: ABQ-0627/10D Holy Land Travel Center: info@holylandtc.com Tel. (866) 339-3323 - Fax (505) 212-0919

CST-2117169

### **Terms & Conditions**

By making any payments (cash, credit card or otherwise) towards any tour constitutes your unconditional acceptance of all the terms and conditions stated in this brochure. Holy Land Travel Center shall be referred to as HLTC within this document.

DOCUMENTS: US citizens require a valid passport. Other nationalities please inquire with the appropriate embassies.

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT: Deposit of \$500 per person is required upon registration along with a signed copy of the registration form on or before. Registrations are processed in the order received by HLTC A second payment of \$1249 is required on or before 150 days prior to departure. A third payment of \$1000 is due 90 days prior to departure. Final payment is due 45 days prior to departure. Late payments are subject to \$50 late fee. HLTC reserves the right to cancel reservations whose payments are 30 days late and to apply applicable cancellation/penalties indicated below. No registrations can be made over the telephone.

INDIVIDUAL CANCELLATION FEES & REFUNDS: Upon cancellation of participation of tour by you, the registrant, for any reason, and only after HLTC receives your signed cancellation, HLTC will then refund your payment for services not received by you, minus applicable cancellation fees per person, according to the following schedule:

In addition to any cancellation fees specific to your tour found on your tour brochure, the following fees apply.

- 1) Minimum cancellation fee is \$350 from time of registration up to 120 days prior to the tour's departure date.
- 2) From 119 to 60 days prior to departure day, the cancellation fee is \$350 + 20% of total price.
- 3) From 59 days to 8 days prior to departure day, cancellation fee is \$350 + 50% of total price.
- 4) From 7 days prior to departure day onward, no refund is possible.

TRAVEL PROTECTION: Travel insurance is recommended to help protect you and your trip investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer travel protection. If you do not wish to purchase now, the plan can be purchased any time before submitting your final payment. If you chose to purchase outside of the time sensitive period outlined in the plan, you will not be eligible for time sensitive benefits. To view/download the plan, which provides the full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusion please visit our website: www.holylandtc.com/travel-protection/

MEDICAL CONDITION: We endeavor to provide the highest level of service to all our passengers. Participants who require special assistance must be accompanied by a qualified helper who assumes total responsibility for the participants' well-being. This pilgrimage demands a lot of walking and can be strenuous. HLTC is not responsible for any medical conditions that occur prior to, during, or after the tour.

LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSFERS: By private deluxe motor coach. ACCOMMODATIONS: Tour prices are per person, based on two persons sharing double or twin-bedded rooms with private bathroom with tub or shower. In the event that one does not sign up with a roommate and is not able to be paired with another traveler, there will be a single supplement charge to the account. Single rooms subject to availability and an additional cost of \$500.

MEALS: Meals in accordance with the itinerary. All beverages are extra.

TIPPING: Unless it is specified in the tour brochure, the price of the tour does not include tips and gratuities. Tipping is recommended to the tour guide and motor coach driver approximately \$6 and \$4 per person, respectively, per day to each: Hotel tips are approximately \$2 per day per person. Tips may be pre-collected before the pilgrimage for your convenience.

AIRLINE TICKETS AND ITINERARY LENGTH: Air transportation to/from your destination will be economy class aboard carriers utilizing non-refundable, non-amenable tickets. Preliminary international flight schedules are available 60 days prior to departure and may change before they are finalized. Therefore, if you book

the domestic flight on your own, you will be responsible for changing your domestic flights and incurring any change fees that would be generated by this adjustment. We are not responsible for changes and delays in airline schedules and do not reimburse passengers for expenses resulting from such occurrences. Travelers making their own flight arrangements should not purchase non-refundable, non-changeable tickets. We cannot guarantee the most direct routing to your final destination. If flight schedules change, we reserve the right to lengthen or shorten the itinerary accordingly, and if changes or flight schedules necessitate extra overnights, you will be charged at normal hotel rates. Land Only packages do not include airport-hotel transfers.

SEAT ASSIGNMENT: THERE IS NO ADVANCE SEAT SELECTION FOR TOUR DEPARTURES. HLTC cannot guarantee specific seats, which are at the discretion of the airline and are pending availability. When HLTC disperses travel packages, you will receive your record locator. You can use this locator to do online seating arrangements, if permitted by the airline.

BAGGAGE: International flights to and from the USA allow the passenger to bring one (1) checked bag, which may have a maximum weight of 50 lbs., and maximum combined dimensions of 62 inches. Also, one (1) "carry-on" with maximum dimensions of 8"x12"x20" is permitted. Luggage on domestic flights will cost extra. Luggage is the passenger's responsibility and that of the airlines. For lost luggage, the passenger is responsible for notifying the airline directly. Check with your carrier regarding carry-on luggage rules and regulations.

PRICES: All prices are based on exchange rates and fares applicable at time of quotation and based on minimum number of paying passengers stated in the brochure, and are therefore subject to change if fares change (including fuel surcharges increase), if group does not reach minimum or if exchange rates fluctuate.

NOT INCLUDED: Passport and Visas, meals not mentioned, beverages with meals, extra beyond standard menu, excess baggage, luggage on domestic flights, telephone calls, fuel surcharges increase.

LIABILITY DISCLAIMER: HLTC hereby expressly disclaims any liability for any personal injury, property damage, Loss of baggage, accident, delay or irregularity, any claim for special or consequential damages or any other loss which may be occasioned by the acts and/or omissions, whether negligent, intentional, wrongful or otherwise, of any air carrier, hotel/motel or other lodging operator, railroad operator, bus operator, public transportation, sea carrier, local sightseeing company, tour operator, tour leader or spiritual director, any employees thereof, or any other entity or individual not under the direct supervision and control of HLTC when engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour, or otherwise in connection therewith. HLTC likewise expressly disclaims any responsibility for losses or expenses incurred, or inconvenience caused, due to delay or changes in schedules, defaults, over booking of hotels or airlines, sickness, weather, strikes, quarantines, pandemics, epidemics, acts of terrorism, constructions, war, force majeure or other such events which are beyond HLTC's control. HLTC likewise hereby expressly disclaims any liability for statements, actions or inactions of any intermediary agents such as group administrators, spiritual directors or tour leaders, travel agents or any other intermediary involved with the selling, promotion or operation of its tours. Group administrators, spiritual leaders and tour leaders likewise hereby expressly disclaim any liability for the acts and/or omissions of any of the above entities and/or individuals not directly under their supervision or control. Please be advised that the liability of carriers as well as providers of hotel and lodging accommodations is limited by law and you may thus wish to consider purchasing additional insurance to protect yourself against any losses or injuries suffered as a result of their acts and/or omissions. In all instances, HLTC's liability shall be limited to the amounts paid by you for participation in the tour, and subject to the provisions and cancellation fees as set forth in the 'Brochure Terms and Conditions'. In the event that the tour leader and/or spiritual director named in a brochure or itinerary does not travel with the group, and a substitute is not named to replace such person(s), then HLTC reserves the right to make substitutions of its choosing for such person(s) in the operation of the tour. Tour Cancellation by Operator: On rare occasion, a tour departure may be cancelled due to lack of participation. In the event that HLTC would decide to cancel a departure, a full refund will be issued (not including travel insurance). HLTC is not responsible and does not assume responsibility for any additional costs or any fees relating to the cancellation of air tickets or other arrangements not made through HLTC. Cancellations due to state advisories and/or state warnings, Pandemic, Epidemic, Acts of War, War, Terrorism, Acts of God, Natural Disaster, Force Majeure or any other circumstance outside the control of HLTC, are not the fault of HLTC. Great effort will be made to accommodate passengers on another trip, postponed date or to revise itinerary, however, cancellation for any of these reasons will not be eligible for refund.

Note: While no changes are anticipated, there may be unforeseen occasions when certain alterations become necessary, either due to changes to the airline schedule, government regulations, travel restrictions, or any other reason. Holy Land Travel Center reserves the right to change the itinerary or name alternate dates due to such unforeseen circumstances or emergencies