
THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

◆ IN THE LAND OF THE TSARS ◆
Russian Winter Arts



Travel with THE MET



FEATURING THE TSAR'S BALL
AT CATHERINE'S PALACE ON NEW YEAR'S EVE

◆ December 26, 2009 to January 5, 2010 ◆

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

Russia in winter is imbued with a particular magic: summer is the same as everywhere else, but during the months of snow, the Russian soul comes into its own. It is also the time for which most of the country's buildings were designed. Brightly colored palaces and the gold-starred onion domes of the churches stand out against the white background and take on an unforgettable sumptuousness.

Join us as we discover Russia's artistic treasures in Moscow and St. Petersburg at this very special time. In Moscow we will bask in the intense colors of the Gauguins at the Pushkin Museum and those of the spectacular icons at the Tretyakov. We will see the Kremlin as it ought to be seen, romantic and ancient as the snow covers Red Square. There will be visits to the Kremlin collections of jewels, silver, costumes and carriages, as well as to its churches. A performance of Russian ballet or opera will also highlight our stay in Moscow.

In St. Petersburg we explore the Hermitage and the Russian Museum, where masterpieces are the norm. Other highlights are a *troika* ride across the snow-covered landscape in the royal park of Pavlovsk Palace; a performance by the famed Mariinsky company; a private operatic concert in the home of the composer Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakoff; and a gala New Year's Eve Ball in magnificent Catherine's Palace, the masterpiece of architect Rastrelli. Here the Russians will prove they remember all the traditions of flamboyant hospitality.



Gallery in the Hermitage.

Daniëlle Kisluk-Grosheide, Curator of European Sculpture and Decorative Arts at the Met, will join us on this winter idyll and add her knowledge and unique insights to this dazzling spectacle of northern splendor.

We look forward to your participation and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Emily K. Rafferty
President

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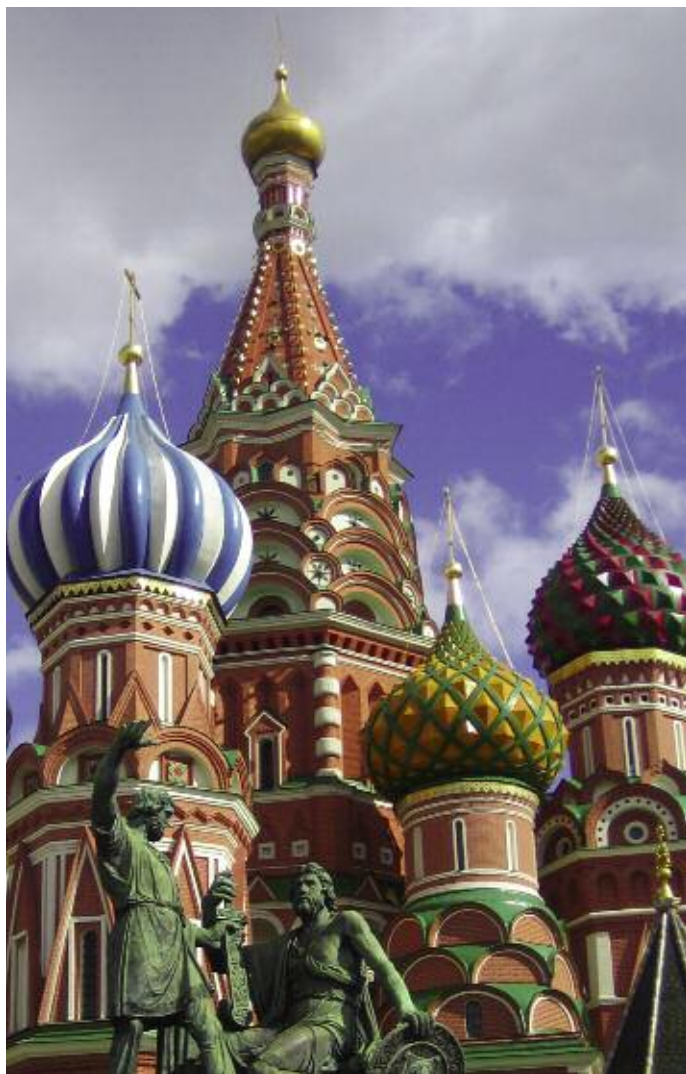


Photo by Ksenya Malina, used with kind permission

Domes of St. Basil's, Moscow.

NEW YORK

Saturday, December 26

Depart on an overnight flight to Moscow via Frankfurt.

MOSCOW

Sunday, December 27

Arrive in the late afternoon and transfer to The Ritz-Carlton, conveniently located near Red Square. Gather in the early evening for a welcome reception followed by dinner at the hotel.

MOSCOW

Monday, December 28

This morning enter the Kremlin grounds to see the Russian Crown Jewels in the State Diamond Fund. Tour the Armory Museum's collection of tsarist treasures including bejeweled thrones and gifts of state. In this lavish setting, attend a private performance of Russian choral music. Continue to the 15th-century Assumption and Annunciation Cathedrals, with their exquisite frescoes. The Annunciation Cathedral's iconostasis is one of the most prized ecclesiastical creations in Russia, as it contains the work of the three finest 15th-century icon painters. After a lunch of traditional Russian specialties, stroll on Red Square for views of the Kremlin's redbrick towers and golden cupolas, as well as exotic St. Basil's cathedral. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. This evening attend a performance of opera or ballet.

MOSCOW

Tuesday, December 29

Following a morning lecture, explore the galleries of the Old Tretyakov, with its impressive collection of icons and Russian art. Visit adjacent St. Nicholas Church to view the famed "Lady of Vladimir" icon. Lunch is at the Artist Gallery, a sky-lit atrium filled with Tsereteli sculptures and art-filled dining rooms. Then view works by Kandinsky, Chagall and Goncharova at the New Tretyakov Picture Gallery. The balance of the day is at leisure.

MOSCOW ◆ ST. PETERSBURG

Wednesday, December 30

Begin the day with a visit to the Pushkin Museum of Fine Art, whose outstanding collection is noted for its French Impressionists, Old Masters, antique sculpture and gold artifacts from Heinrich Schliemann's excavations of ancient Troy. Lunch is at leisure before we board a late-afternoon express train to St. Petersburg, with dinner en route. Check in this evening at the Hotel Astoria, with views of the gold-domed St. Isaac's Cathedral.



Interior, St. Isaac's Cathedral.

ST. PETERSBURG

Thursday, December 31

Attend a morning lecture before we visit the renowned Hermitage Museum, housing one of the greatest art collections ever assembled. A marvelous architectural complex, its four-hundred rooms contain treasures ranging from Egyptian mummies to Scythian gold to the largest group of French Impressionist works in existence. The collection of Old Masters was once the property of Catherine the Great. En route back to the hotel, stop to view the elaborate interior of the 19th-century St. Isaac's Cathedral, with detailed mosaic icons, paintings and columns made of malachite and lapis lazuli. The afternoon is at leisure to prepare for this evening's ball.

TSAR'S BALL AT CATHERINE'S PALACE

The gala New Year's Ball at Catherine's Palace recaptures the extravagant glamour of a tsarist celebration. This royal residence in Tsarskoye Selo served as the country home of the Imperial family from Peter the Great to Nicholas II, the last tsar. Enter the palace with regal fanfare and enjoy flamboyant Russian hospitality including champagne, caviar, vodka and a sumptuous dinner. Throughout the evening there will be music, dancing, excerpts from operas and ballets, folkloric entertainment, fireworks and toasts to the New Year. A highlight will be entry to the palace's meticulously restored Amber Room.

ST. PETERSBURG

Friday, January 1

An opulent New Year's Day brunch at the hotel is followed by a lecture. Attend a private recital by opera soloists in the apartment-museum of famed composer Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakoff. Dinner is at leisure.

ST. PETERSBURG

Saturday, January 2

Against the backdrop of the beautiful Russian winter, see the famous landmarks of this captivating city of Peter the Great: 19th-century Kazan Cathedral; 18th-century Smolny Cathedral, designed by Bartolomeo Rastrelli; and the Admiralty, whose gilded spire dominates the skyline. Continue to Yusupov Palace, as famous for its beauty as for its place in history. Here in 1916, the notorious monk Gregory Rasputin was assassinated in a plot led by Prince Felix Yusupov. Lunch is at one of St. Petersburg's most celebrated new restaurants. This evening attend a Winter Arts Festival performance.



The Hermitage.

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ST. PETERSBURG

Sunday, January 3

Today we visit Pavlovsk, the lovely 18th-century palace designed by Scottish architect Charles Cameron as a gift from Catherine the Great to her son, Paul I. A highlight of our tour will be the private rooms of Empress Maria Fyodorovna. Then enjoy a traditional Russian *troika* (horse-drawn sleigh) ride in the sparkling, snow-covered palace park. Lunch is at the folklore-inspired Podvorye Restaurant before returning to St. Petersburg. Following dinner at leisure, attend an opera or ballet performance.

ST. PETERSBURG

Monday, January 4

Spend the morning among the riches of the Russian Museum, established in 1895 and housed in the splendid Neoclassical residence of Grand Duke Michael. Admire the mosaic-covered interiors of the nearby Church of Our Savior on the Spilled Blood, built from 1883 to 1907 on the spot where Tsar Alexander II was assassinated. A riot of color with its twisted onion domes, it is a magical reminder of old Russia. Lunch and the afternoon are at leisure. This evening celebrate a memorable trip with a farewell dinner at the hotel.

ST. PETERSBURG ♦ NEW YORK

Tuesday, January 5

Transfer to the airport for the flights to New York. ◆

PROGRAM RATE PER PERSON \$9,950
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT \$1,150

RATE INCLUDES

- ◆ Three nights hotel accommodations at The Ritz-Carlton in Moscow
- ◆ Express Business-Class train fare from Moscow to St. Petersburg
- ◆ Six nights accommodations at the Hotel Astoria in St. Petersburg
- ◆ Buffet breakfast daily, one brunch, four lunches and four dinners with bottled water, coffee/tea. Wine with dinners
- ◆ Gala New Year's Ball in Catherine's Palace, with opera, ballet and musical highlights
- ◆ Enrichment program of lectures
- ◆ One performance in Moscow and two in St. Petersburg
- ◆ Private opera recital in the Rimsky-Korsakoff Museum
- ◆ Escorted sightseeing; entrance fees for all included visits
- ◆ Airport / hotel / train group transfers
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers; taxes, service and portorage for one suitcase per person

NOT INCLUDED IN RATE

International airfare; passport and visa fees; alcoholic beverages other than wine at included dinners; personal items and expenses; trip insurance; meals not specified; excess baggage charges; transfers for those not on suggested flights; any other item not specifically mentioned as included.

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RESERVATION APPLICATION

To reserve a place, please return this form along with your deposit of \$2,000 per person (of which \$350 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

ACCOMMODATIONS

I wish to share a room with _____
 I will require single accommodations (at a supplement of \$1,150).

FORM OF PAYMENT

- Enclosed is my check (payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*)
- Credit card (may be used for deposit only)

Names in Full as on Passports. Please Print.

Name on Credit Card

Credit Card Number

Address

3- or 4-Digit Security Code

Expiration Date

City State Zip

Each participant must sign below. I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms and Conditions* of this Program. I/We agree to full payment by check 120 days prior to departure.

Telephone (Home) (Business)

Signature (Required)

Date

Fax E-mail

Signature (Required)

Date

For additional information, please contact Academic Arrangements Abroad

Telephone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944 ♦ Fax: 212-344-7493 ♦ E-mail: met@arrangementsabroad.com ♦ www.metmuseum.org/travel



♦ IN THE LAND OF THE TSARS ♦

Russian Winter Arts

Travel with THE MET



♦ TERMS & CONDITIONS ♦

AIRFARE Academic Arrangements Abroad will be pleased to assist with air travel arrangements. A specially negotiated APEX Economy Class non-refundable group airfare will be offered. Business Class will be quoted on an individual basis. Please note that a fee of \$75 per person will be charged for any reservations other than the group flight schedule; private transfers can be arranged at a supplemental cost. To redeem frequent flyer mileage, please contact the airline directly.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE A deposit of \$2,000 per person, payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*, of which \$350 is non-refundable for administrative fees, is required with the reservation application. Final payment, by check only, must be received 120 days prior to departure.

HEALTH All participants must be in good health. This program involves walking over uneven surfaces (possibly in snow conditions) and climbing stairs at monuments and other locations not handicapped accessible. Any condition that may require assistance or special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation.

INSURANCE TRIP CANCELLATION / EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION / BAGGAGE / ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE PROTECTION IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. CANCELLATION PENALTIES ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED. Academic Arrangements Abroad will send an insurance application upon receipt of deposit, although you may select an alternative insurer of your choice.

CHANGES IN ITINERARY & COSTS The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Academic Arrangements Abroad. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfares and currency exchange rates in effect as of April 2009 and are subject to change without notice. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE The participation of The Metropolitan Museum of Art (the Met) is limited to educational sponsorship of the program described in this brochure (The Program). Academic Arrangements Abroad (AAA) acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to transportation, accommodations and all other services, relating to The Program. AAA, the Met and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any aircraft, ship, train, bus or other carrier, or through neglect or default of any subcontractor or other third party, which may be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to the participants of The Program. The passage ticket issued by the carrier is the sole contract between the participant and the carrier. Nor will AAA or the Met and/or their agents be responsible for loss, injury, damages or expenses to persons or property, due to illness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature or other such causes in connection with The Program or anything beyond their reasonable control. AAA is not responsible for transportation or other program delays and changes, nor additional expenses or loss of time that may be incurred. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or

well-being of the participants, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary at any time, without notice to the participants, such alterations will be made without penalty to AAA or the Met. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the participants. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the participant at all times. The Met and AAA reserve the right to accept or decline any person as a participant at any time, or to require any participant to withdraw from The Program at their own expense when such an action is determined by AAA or the Met to be in the best interest of the participant's health and safety, or the general welfare of the other participants.

CANCELLATION POLICY AAA must strictly adhere to its cancellation policy to offset costs incurred prior to the commencement of The Program, which may include but are not limited to: advance payments to land operators; ship charters; communication expenses; development/promotional expenses and the loss of time that might have permitted resale of reserved space. All cancellations must be made in writing to the offices of AAA and are subject to a \$350 non-refundable administrative fee. All refunds are limited to amounts actually received by AAA and are the sole responsibility of AAA; the Met shall have no liability for refunds. At the time AAA receives written notification of cancellation, the following cancellation charges will apply: cancellations received between 120 and 91 days prior to departure, \$2,000 per person; those received between 90 and 61 days before departure, \$2,500 per person; no refunds will be given for cancellations received within 60 days of departure. No refunds are given for cancellation on or after the day of departure, or for unused portions of the tour, for any reason. Air cancellation charges, if any, will be assessed in accordance with airline regulations. All group fare tickets must be issued no less than 30 days prior to departure. NOTE: Neither AAA nor the Met shall be liable for any airline cancellation penalties incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket. In the case of a cancellation due to shortage of participants, AAA will attempt to notify all participants at least 45 days prior to departure. However, AAA reserves the right to cancel The Program prior to departure for any reason and, in such case, reimbursement of refundable costs of the trip by AAA shall constitute full settlement with the participant. In the unlikely event that a dispute arises between a participant and AAA or the Met, the following conditions will apply: (a) the dispute will be settled by binding arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association in New York, NY; (b) the dispute will be governed by New York Law; (c) the maximum amount of recovery to which a participant shall be entitled under any and all circumstances will be the sum of all monies actually received from the participant by AAA. The participant agrees that this is a fair and reasonable limitation on the damages, of any sort whatsoever, that a participant may suffer. Upon payment of the deposit to AAA, the participant agrees to be bound by the above terms and conditions.

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CST 2059789-40



On the cover: *Moscow, Basilica of Saint Basil*. 19th-century Russian print. Color lithograph by Louis-Philippe-Alphonse (1801-1850) and Victor Adam (1801-1866). Printed by Lemercier, Paris. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, From the Library of Alfred Duane Pell. Transferred from the Library, 1969. (69.614.3). Below: *Troika* ride in the park of Pavlovsk Palace.