

Tour to Russian Golden Ring

Key information

Duration: 11 days / 10 nights

Season: May - September

Tour type: Small group / individual (starting from 2 persons)

What's included:

Private transfer from Moscow airport to the hotel and transfer to St. Petersburg airport from hotel, Accommodation in 3* hotels, Meals: breakfast, 7 lunches, 6 dinners, Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles (vaccinated drivers), English speaking guide service for all days (vaccinated guides), All admission fees

What's not included:

Flights, Visa fee, Medical insurance

Itinerary in brief

Day 1 - Arrival in Moscow

Day 2 - Moscow City Tour

Day 3 - Moscow City Tour

Day 4 - Vladimir - Bogolyubovo - Suzdal

Day 5 - Suzdal City Tour

Day 6 - Kostroma - Yaroslavl

Day 7 - Rostov

Day 8 - Sergiyev Posad - St. Petersburg

Day 9 - St. Petersburg City Tour

Day 10 - Petergof

Day 11 - Departure



Detailed itinerary

Day 1

Arrival in Moscow – the capital and the largest city of Russia, standing on the Moskva River; After the transfer to the hotel and check-in, you'll have an evening stroll in Zaryade Park created for recreation, entertainment by an international team of architects, engineers, landscape designers and other experts. Here nature and technology, education and entertainment, history and modernity are combined and complement each other. Your welcome dinner will take place in a typical restaurant in Moscow city center.

Overnight: *Hotel in Moscow*

Meals: *Dinner*

Day 2

The day will be devoted to the landmarks of Moscow. Moscow, the bustling capital of Russia, is a city of wide streets filled with cars, vast parks and boulevards designed for relaxation and walks, new quarters with high-rise buildings, impressive monuments and historical estates. Your acquaintance will start from Vorobyovy Gory – a large park constructed on a slope in a bend along the banks of the Moskva River, with a territory of 137.5 hectares. It is known for its amazing nature and magnificent views that open from the look point. Your sightseeing tour will proceed to such important attractions as the triumphal arch, the Cathedral of Christ the Savior and the Kutuzowski Prospect. The highlight of the day will be the New Maiden Monastery (UNESCO World Heritage Site), also known as Novodevichy Monastery. Next, you'll stop at the Red Square - a UNESCO Site, the most important city landmark and number one attraction for any traveler visiting Moscow. Red Square is home to a huge number of unique attractions starting from monuments, museums, temples and cathedrals, ending with other popular historical, architectural, cultural and religious tourist sites. You won't also miss the Alexander Garden and the Kremlin. The Moscow Kremlin is a fortress in the center of Moscow, the main socio-political and historical-artistic complex of the city, the official residence of the President of the Russian Federation, and one of the most famous architectural structures in the world.

Overnight: *Hotel in Moscow*

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch*

Day 3

Your first visit of the day will be to the Moscow underground known for its magnificent design of marble stations. Next you'll plunge into the authentic life of Muscovites at the Preobrazhenskiy Market which is the best place to try Russian delicacies and make bargain purchases. The sightseeing tour will proceed to the Muzeon Art Park where one can observe important statues and monuments from the Soviet era – an unforgettable travel back in times! The day will end with a nice stroll along the city's most famous street, the Arbat. With a length of about 1.2 kilometers Arbat (Old Arbat) is a cult pedestrian street in the center of Moscow, one of the oldest and most famous historical streets of the city. Old Arbat is famous for its architectural ensemble of high-quality historical buildings that frame the street; moreover, Arbat is quite well equipped: there are lanterns and benches for passers-by.

Overnight: *Hotel in Moscow*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 4

From this day you will start your journey to the cities of Russian Golden Ring which unites Old Russian cities of five Oblasts. The first destination to visit is Vladimir located east of Moscow. During the tour you will explore beautiful white-stone Dimitrievsky Cathedral covered with reliefs depicting animals and saints and the Golden Gate - a white-stone tower of the 12th century with oak doors covered with gilded copper. The tour will proceed to the nearby village of Bogolyubovo, one of the oldest localities in central Russia. After visiting the Bogolyubov Monastery and the Church of the Protection of the



Virgin Mary (both UNESCO World Heritage Sites) you will continue to Suzdal - one of the most beautiful cities on the Golden Ring.

Overnight: *Hotel in Suzdal*

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Day 5

Your morning will start with a sightseeing tour around Suzdal – a postcard city of stunning beauty, fabulous harmony surrounding views and ancient majestic monasteries, elegant white-stone temples, and old wooden houses. Modern high-rise constructions are strictly prohibited here, thus one can admire all the ancient beauties of Suzdal practically in an untouched and beautifully restored form. No wonder that each year it welcomes thousands of tourists. During the tour you will visit the Kremlin, the Cathedral of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary and the Saviour Monastery of St. Euthymius. After lunch you will learn interesting facts about Russian traditional wooden doll matryoshka.

Overnight: *Hotel in Suzdal*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 6

Old streets, ancient architecture and white stone churches await you in the other beautiful city of Golden Ring - Kostroma. Kostroma is a marvelous city where fairy tale intertwines with reality and history with modernity. This cozy “gingerbread” city is a homeland of the Godunov and Romanov Russian Dynasties. Moreover, the city produces 30% of all jewelry created in the country. During the tour, you'll see the Apparition Cathedral, the Church of the Resurrection and Hypathius Monastery. Your tour will proceed to Yaroslavl city well-known for its ancient city center protected by UNESCO and surreal religious architecture. Your tour will include visits to the most breathtaking architectural masterpieces such as the emerald-domed Church of Elijah the Prophet and the gilded towers of the Assumption Cathedral. You will also have a promenade along the Volga River on the place where the city was founded.

Overnight: *Hotel in Yaroslavl*

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Day 7

This day will be devoted to the exploration of one of the oldest cities in the country – Rostov Velikij. It is considered the cradle of native Russian architecture, the Orthodox capital and the pearl of the Golden Ring of Russia. The land of Rostov still preserves thousand-year-old deep lakes, birch groves and the most valuable historical and cultural monuments. Here you will visit the Erlöser Jakob Monastery and the Kremlin and be fascinated by the many cathedrals and towers in the complex.

Overnight: *Hotel in Rostov*

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 8

In the morning you will leave Rostov and continue your trip along the Golden Ring. You will stop in Sergiyev Posad city located within Moscow Oblast, at the distance of about 70 km from Moscow. The city is famous for its important religious sights that attract pilgrims from different corners of the world. Here you will visit the main city attraction, the Trinity Lavra of St. Sergius, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the spiritual center of the Russian Orthodox Church. After the tour you'll have lunch with one of the monks who will tell you interesting facts about local religion. The bus will then take you to Moscow. From the main train station, you will take the express train to St. Petersburg (approx. 4 hours); 3 nights in St. Petersburg.

Overnight: *Hotel in St. Petersburg*

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch*



Day 9

This day will be devoted to the exploration of St. Petersburg or so called “Piter”. Your tour will start with the historic old town (UNESCO World Heritage Site) of St. Petersburg. You will see the Nevsky Prospect, Kazan Cathedral, the magnificent Admiralty with its shiny gold tip, the Alexander Column, the Church of the Resurrection of Christ and the Peter and Paul Fortress. In Hermitage, you'll admire some of the most famous works of art. The State Hermitage is a museum of fine and decorative arts, one of the largest art museums in the world. It will take more than 11 years to view all of its exhibits if spending at least one minute for each one. Today the Hermitage collection contains more than 3,000,000 exhibits - paintings, graphic sheets, sculptures, works of decorative and applied art, weapons, numismatics, archaeological finds, books, photographs, documents and much more. Some of the gems of its collections are such world-known paintings as The Return of the Prodigal Son by Rembrandt, Madonna Benoit by Leonardo da Vinci, and The Lady in Blue by Thomas Gainsborough.

Overnight: Hotel in St. Petersburg

Meals: Breakfast

Day 10

On your last tour day, you will plunge into impressive atmosphere of Petergof - a municipal town in Petrodvortsovy District of the federal city of St. Petersburg, located on the southern shore of the Gulf of Finland. The town will welcome you with its beautiful parks, fountains and important cultural sights. More than 150 fountains, palaces, pavilions, statues, alleys and flower beds - everything is full of grandeur and reminds of a beautiful bygone era. Your tour will include visit to the legendary Catherine rococo palace which was once the summer residence of the Russian tsars. The most significant areas in the palace is its Amber Room decorated in amber panels backed with gold leaf and mirrors. You will plunge into the splendor of the Russian Empire during the exploration of this room and learn lots of interesting facts from your guide. You will also visit Tsarskoe Selo A farewell dinner awaits you at the end of the day; it will be a perfect end of your exciting journey.

Overnight: Hotel in St. Petersburg

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 11

Transfer to airport, departure.





Booking terms and conditions

Once we received your application, confirmed all tour details with you, we will send a deposit invoice. After the deposit of 50-100 euro per person (depending on the tour price) is received, we will start your hotel reservation and other service booking and will send your Tour Voucher with all the trip details.

Payment Terms

After you have booked the tour, it is necessary to make a non-refundable deposit of 50-100 euros, which will provide our coordinators with the possibility to start organizing a trip (hotel reservation, food, transportation, etc.). Final payment could be made after your arrival on the spot. We reserve the right to cancel your booking and apply the relevant cancellation charges (detailed below) if we do not receive all payments at the due time.

Cancellation of the tour

If you or a member of your group wants to cancel the tour, please, inform our company as soon as possible in writing form. Please, note that the prepayment (50-100 euros) is non-refundable; however, you can use it throughout the year and book another tour. In this case, our company will have to charge an extra 100 euros for re-booking the hotel.

Rights and obligations

Tours provided by our company are planned for many months before its inception and are not the subject of change or cancellation. Under the obligation of forced circumstances (weather, holidays) we can make some changes in the itinerary, however, all that relates to services and attractions will remain unchanged.

Please note, that our tours require a minimum number of participants – 2 persons. We reserve the right to cancel the trip, if any tour will not have the minimum number of participants. We will inform you about the cancellation of the tour no later than 30 days before the start and will do the full refund of the amount paid, including the prepayment.

We also request immediately and promptly report all complaints and any claims during the tour. If possible, all problems will be solved. If the tourist does not report any complaint, the compensation will not be implemented.

Please, also note that the company AraraTour is not liable for services not included in the tour price. Our responsibility is limited only to the extent provided by our tour.

Force majeure or any other event which is beyond our control and which is not preventable by reasonable diligence on our part frees both parties from liability or obligation. In case of Force majeure, we don't issue any refund.

Insolvency or bankruptcy insurance

Tour operator Arara guarantees the refund of clients' money for unfulfilled services even in the case of company's own insolvency or bankruptcy.

