

8 Days

Russia Muslim Tour

St Petersburg & Moscow



DAY 1 : KUALA LUMPUR / TASHKENT / ST PETERSBURG

Assemble at the appointed check-in counter at Kuala Lumpur International Airport where your tour manager will be there to assist you through the flight check-in formalities. Depart on your pleasant flight to St Petersburg via Tashkent. Meet and greet upon arrival at **Pulkovo International Airport** and then transfer to hotel for check-in.

DAY 2 : ST PETERSBURG

(Buffet Breakfast / Muslim Lunch / Muslim Dinner)

St Petersburg, the former capital of the Russian Empire and the symbol of a new Russian history and grandiose, a city rich in culture, heritage and great architectural works. It is the second largest city in Russia and has been dubbed as the 'Venice of the North' for its beautiful palace lines water ways. This morning, visit the **Palace Square of Winter Palace** where you will see the **Angel Crowning Alexander Column**. Then visit the **State Hermitage Museum** which is one of the largest museum in the world where its collection numbers about 3 millions exhibits and holds the world's largest collection of paintings. The **Winter Palace** which is the residence of the Russian Tsars is one of the five buildings that make up the architectural ensemble of the State Hermitage Museum. After lunch, visit **St Isaac's Cathedral**, the greatest and finest cathedrals in the Russian Empire built in the 19th century and a dominant figure in St. Petersburg skyline. Next, proceed to visit **St Isaac's Square** where you will see the **Monument of Nicholas I**. Continue to visit the picturesque **Decembrists Square** with the famous **Monument of Peter the Great (The Bronze Horseman)** that radiates out onto the beautiful **Neva River**. Finally, visit the **Cathedral Mosque** which is the biggest mosque in St Petersburg.

DAY 3 : ST PETERSBURG

(Buffet Breakfast / Muslim Lunch / Muslim Dinner)

This morning, we drive to **Vasilievsky Island** and make a stop at the **Rostral Column** of the old sea port. Then visit the famous historical and revolutionary monuments of **Peter and Paul Fortress**, founded in 1703 with its location selected by Peter the Great himself who well understood the strategic advantages of placing such an outpost on the island in the Neva Delta and the fortress was erected as the nucleus of the future city of St Petersburg. Inside the fortress we will visit the impressive **Peter and Paul Cathedral**, the burial place of all the Russian Emperors and Empresses from Peter the Great to Alexander III which stands in the middle of the fortress. Next attraction, visit the **Artillery Museum** which display enormous collection of arms and heavy artillery from the Middle Ages to the present day. After lunch, we will take a pleasant stroll at the lovely **Summer Garden** and **Kamenny Island**, seclusion and turn-of-the 20th century dachas combined with winding lanes and a series of beautiful canals, lakes and ponds. Finally, walking tour of the famous and elegant shopping street of **Nevsky Prospekt** which is the main street of St Petersburg. We will first make a photo stop at the colorful and marvelous Russian style **Church on the Spilled Blood** and then to the main street where you will see the impressive stone colonnade of **Kazan Cathedral** and the unique and awesome architectures along the street.

DAY 4 : ST PETERSBURG / MOSCOW by OVERNIGHT TRAIN

(Buffet Breakfast / Muslim Lunch / Muslim Dinner)

Morning excursion tour to the **Great Palace of Peterhof (Petrodvorets)**, founded by Peter the Great in the early 18th century, located in the suburbs of St Petersburg on the Southern shore of the Finnish Gulf. Upon arrival, visit the exuberant decorated Grand Palace that symbolizes the grandeur of Russia. Many celebrated architects, sculptors, artists as well as thousands of talented craftsmen contributed to the creation of this magnificent palace. The stately parks which are only open during summer features innumerable fountains, beautiful cascades, gull and marble statues of gods and heroes. Return to the city and make a photo stop at the **Aurora Battle Cruise** which is a Russian protected cruiser and currently preserved as a museum ship. Next, visit the **Monument of the Heroic Defenders of Leningrad** which commemorates World War II. Then, visit to **Nikolsky Cathedral**, the great example of the late Russian baroque. We then make a stop at the **Arts Square** and see the most prominent building of the **Mikhailovsky Palace**. Time permits, we will spend some time for shopping at the **Nevsky Prospekt** area. Later in the evening, transfer to train station for overnight train to Moscow (rates are based on "quad sharing" 4 berth second class cabin. It is advisable to upgrade with additional supplement to twin sharing first class cabin which is more comfortable)

DAY 5 : MOSCOW

(Breakfast at Local Restaurant / Muslim Lunch / Muslim Dinner)

Meet on arrival at **Moscow Train Station** in the morning, transfer to a local restaurant for breakfast. We then proceed to visit the **Historical Mosque**. Later, we experience the tour of **Moscow's Metro**, also known as Underground Palaces which is one of the most beautiful subway system in the world. We will ride on the train to visit a few main underground stations. In the afternoon we will visit **Arbat Street** which is the first pedestrian street in Moscow and you will find shops selling antiques, jewelry, souvenirs, art galleries, folk arts and many interesting sights.

DAY 6 : MOSCOW

(Buffet Breakfast / Muslim Lunch / Muslim Dinner)

City tour of Moscow this morning, visit the famous and oldest **Red Square** which is situated in the very heart of Moscow. See the **St Basil's Cathedral** one of Moscow's best known landmark which is famous for its mass of brightly painted onion domes and turrets. Next to it is the **Spasskaya Bell Tower** and **Lenin's Mausoleum**, the resting place of the embalmed body of the founder of Soviet Communism. Visit the **Gum Department Store**, an elegant shopping mall combining Russian medieval ecclesiastical architecture and is filled with boutiques and designer stores. Next, we enter the beautiful ancient fortified **Kremlin** for a tour to experience the fascinating history of the development of Moscow's seat of political and spiritual power and the famous leaders who have resided and ruled from there. Visit the three beautiful **Cathedrals of Assumption, Annunciation and the Deposition of the Robe**. Our tour in **Kremlin** includes admission to visit the **State Armory Museum** which is the oldest museum in Russia and home to a staggering collection of priceless imperial artifacts and royal treasures dating as far back as the 14th century and encompassing everything from the crown jewels to a magnificent collection of Imperial carriages. Continue visit **Cathedral Mosque**. This evening, enjoy the world famous **Russian Circus Show** (subject to availability).

DAY 7 : MOSCOW / TASHKENT / KUALA LUMPUR

(Buffet Breakfast)

After breakfast, we bid farewell to Moscow, transfer to **Domodedovo International Airport** for your homeward bound flight via Tashkent.

DAY 8 : ARRIVE KUALA LUMPUR

Arrive at Kuala Lumpur International Airport, bringing home sweet memories and enjoyable moments of your Russian tour with iXplore Russia

Important Remark on Muslim Food:

All Lunches and dinners are served at local Muslim restaurants. Muslim restaurants in Russia are the restaurants frequented by local Muslims, there are no "HALAL" signage due to the fact that these restaurants allow smoking and drinking of liquor. However, the foods served are prepared in accordance to Muslim requirements. Daily breakfasts in hotel are on buffet style and our tour members can choose the food that are suitable to them. Except for breakfast on Day 5 will be a "PORK FREE" set breakfast at a local restaurant.