

MS VOLGA DREAM

Luxury Cruise Tours of Russia



2020





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About us

In 2019 we celebrate 32 years under the same Australian ownership, as Australia's foremost specialist to Russia. With three decades of first-hand experience and knowledge, we are able to offer you the exceptional service and expertise you expect. We have been organising River Cruising in Russia since its inception and have watched it emerge as one of the most convenient and popular ways of exploring Russia.

2020 - 5% EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT.
Save from \$525 to \$1395 per couple when you book and deposit by 31 August 2019.

River Cruising in Russia

There is no easier way to explore Russia than through its ancient waterways on a relaxing river cruise. You pack and unpack once and have no need to worry about early morning starts. River Cruising in Russia is a step back in time, venturing into Russia's heartland. It offers the opportunity to travel beyond Moscow and St. Petersburg to experience life in the riverside towns and rural settlements.

For those who have already travelled this route, you can venture south to the Lower Volga and visit magical places like Nizhny Novgorod, Kazan, Samara, Saratov and Volgograd.

The MS Volga Dream Difference

Your Cruise Tour on the family-owned MS Volga Dream has a unique advantage over other Russian river cruises. With most other cruise companies, during your stays in Moscow and St. Petersburg, you stay on board ship, moored at the river port on the outskirts of the city. This involves lengthy transfers to and from your ship each day and restricts your opportunities for independent sightseeing.

On your Volga Dream Cruise Tour you spend three nights in centrally located 5-star hotels, minutes from the major attractions in both Moscow and St. Petersburg, enabling you to make the most of your valuable time in these two amazing cities.

That's the Volga Dream difference!

Satisfied clients

"The trip to Russia was wonderful. The staff on the Volga Dream was outstanding ... friendly, helpful, courteous and a lot of fun. The cabin was more than adequate. We enjoyed all of the stops along the Volga. We especially valued meeting the local people. Seeing the villages and the way of life for Russians in the more remote areas of Russia was a special treat."

Mary, May 2018

"The crew to passenger ratio on the Volga Dream meant that service was very good. Food was of the high quality we expected. The history lecturer Prof. Ludmila Seleznova opened our eyes to the long history of Russia - this was a bonus that helped everybody have an appreciation of the nation's past and present."

Martin, July 2018

*Jayne Thomas, Managing Director and co-founder
Russian Travel Centre/Eastern Europe Travel*



St. Petersburg, Vasilievsky Island

The Volga Dream Experience

Welcome on board

Welcome on board the family-owned and operated MS Volga Dream! From the moment you step on board the elegant Volga Dream, you are made to feel welcome and know that you are going to be spoiled. The attentive, hand-picked English speaking service personnel make you feel immediately that this will be a very special journey. The Volga Dream is the only family-owned ship on the Volga and her owners take immense pride in offering a truly Russian cruise experience.

Your crew

The official on board language is English. The crew are all native Russians and every member of the service staff speaks fluent

English. With just 100 passengers and a crew of 60, the Volga Dream boasts the highest crew-to-passenger ratio on the river. And for that additional peace of mind, there is always a doctor on board.

Your ship

Thanks to a total rebuild in 2007, the MS Volga Dream is a thoroughly modern and well-equipped vessel offering the latest in passenger and maritime safety. The ship features many spacious public areas - the large Neva Lounge and Bar, accommodating all guests at one sitting, a well-stocked library, the spacious Sun and Promenade Decks offering ample solid teak seating and all-around scenery. There is also an open-air Ladoga Bar, fitness centre and sauna. With

so few guests and so much space you can always find a quiet spot to sit back and relax and you will often feel as if you are on your own private vessel.

Fine dining

The delightful restaurant accommodates all guests in one sitting, offering the highest standard of cuisine, freshly chosen by the Cordon Bleu Chef. Lunch may be a sumptuous buffet or set menu, while dinner is always four or five courses, with full service. Accompanying the best selection of international and Russian dishes is complimentary wine, beer and soft drinks with all on board lunches and dinners. In addition, a 24-hour self-service coffee station offers complimentary coffee, tea and snacks.





The Volga Dream Experience

On board activities & small group sightseeing

On board activities

Life on board can be as relaxing or educational as you choose. Your entertainment program includes Russian cooking demonstrations, Matryoshka doll painting, vodka tasting, elementary Russian language classes, classical

Russian piano recitals from the resident pianist and lectures about modern history and life in today's Russia from highly-qualified professional speakers. Your resident professor presents a series of lectures shedding light

on everything from Gorbachev to Chekhov, Khrushchev to Ivan the Terrible, and of course, contemporary Russia. As an added bonus, the professor is on board throughout the cruise for informal conversation.

Small group sightseeing

All sightseeing is conducted in small groups with professional English speaking local guides. Excursions on the Gold program will be conducted in groups of maximum 25 guests; Platinum program groups will comprise a maximum of 16 guests and Imperial a maximum of 10 guests. Your Cruise Tour includes daily sightseeing excursions - including these must-see highlights.



Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg

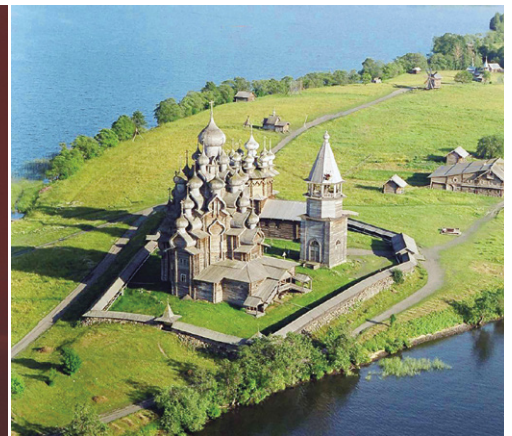
It was Catherine the Great's grand passion for art that transformed the Hermitage into one of the world's greatest museums. By the end of her reign, Catherine's collection was larger than that of any other European monarch. The museum comprises five buildings on the Neva Embankment, including the Winter Palace which was commissioned by Catherine the Great and was an imperial home until 1917. The museum currently houses a collection of more than 3 million items.



House of Fabergé [CC BY-SA 3.0
(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)]

State Armoury Museum, Moscow

Located in the Kremlin grounds, the State Armoury Museum, one of the oldest museums in Moscow, houses a unique collection of crown jewels, gems, glittering thrones, ornate carriages, ceremonial robes and an impressive collection of Fabergé eggs. Moscow's Grand Princes began storing their valuables in the Kremlin's cellars as early as the 14th century. It holds unique collections of Russian, Western European and Eastern applied arts spanning the period from the 5th to the 20th centuries.



Kizhi Island, Karelia

Tiny Kizhi Island is located in the Karelian Republic and was originally settled as a place of pagan practices. This UNESCO World Heritage Site consists almost entirely of meadows and traditional wooden buildings. The island and nearby area form a national open-air museum with over 80 historical wooden structures. The Transfiguration Church, with 22 cupolas covered in aspen wood, was built in 1714 without the use of a single nail, and represents the ultimate in Russian fairy-tale architecture.



The Volga Dream Experience

Luxury hotel stays

Whether you choose a Gold, Platinum or Imperial program - you will be accommodated in centrally-located 5-star international hotels during your 3-night stays in both Moscow and St. Petersburg. In Gold and Platinum programs, your hotels are pre-assigned based on cruise dates.

Gold & Platinum programs



St. Regis Moscow Nikolskaya

The deluxe St. Regis Moscow Nikolskaya is located in an historic building facing Lubyanka Square and a few minutes' walk along the delightful Nikolskaya pedestrian mall to Red Square. The 210 spacious rooms feature stylish décor and marble bathrooms. The hotel has a lobby bar, rooftop terrace, signature Italian restaurant and a spa. Guests also have 24-hour access to the gym and indoor pool.

Ararat Park Hyatt Moscow

The world-class Ararat Park Hyatt is located close to the Bolshoi Theatre and minutes' walk from Red Square. All rooms and most public areas were stylishly renovated by the renowned designer Tony Chi in 2012. The hotel houses four restaurants including the landmark Cafe Ararat which combines traditional Armenian and contemporary cuisine. The hotel also houses a fitness centre and indoor pool.

Belmond Grand Hotel Europe St. Petersburg

The iconic Belmond Grand Hotel Europe is ideally positioned on Nevsky Prospekt, adjacent to Arts Square. The hotel has played a central role in the history of St. Petersburg for more than 140 years. Its guest list includes Dostoevsky, Stravinsky, Tchaikovsky and members of the Romanov dynasty. Soaring ceilings, stained glass, plush fabrics and Art Nouveau flourishes offer a sense of grandeur from a bygone era.

Imperial program



Four Seasons Hotel Moscow

The top-of-the-range, luxury Four Seasons Hotel Moscow boasts a superb historic location, overlooking Manezhnaya Square, just steps away from Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral and the Kremlin. The interior, including its 180 rooms, exudes contemporary style and luxury. The hotel offers an extensive range of dining options in five restaurants and lounges and a state-of-the-art Amnis Spa complex with fitness centre and lap pool.



Four Seasons Lion Palace St. Petersburg

Housed within a magnificent 19th century royal palace, the Four Seasons Lion Palace is located on St. Isaac's Square close to Nevsky Prospekt and the Mariinsky Theatre. The architect of neighbouring St. Isaac's Cathedral, Auguste de Montferrand, was commissioned by Prince Lobanov-Rostovsky, aide-de-camp to the Tsar, to create an elite apartment building. The hotel features two fine-dining venues, the Xander Bar and a luxury spa.





The Volga Dream Experience

On board accommodation



MS Volga Dream offers you a wide choice of on board accommodation in classic décor - from Standard, Superior and Deluxe cabins to Junior Suites and the ultimate Owner's Suite. All 56 cabins are outside, with individually controlled air-conditioning, en suite bathroom and separate shower, bathrobes and slippers, hairdryer, minibar, safe and flat-screen TV. The bottled water in your cabin is replenished daily.

Deck	Cabin	Size
Sun Deck		
Deluxe Junior Suite	402, 403, 404	15.8 m ²
Junior Suite	405	13.1 m ²
Deluxe Twin	406-409, 411, 412	11.7 m ²
Deluxe Single	410	7.5 m ²
Promenade Deck		
Owner's Suite	300	24.2 m ²
Junior Suite	316	14.7 m ²
Deluxe Double	301-315, 317-324	11.3 m ²
Standard Single	325, 326	6.4 m ²
Main Deck		
Superior Twin	201-210	10.6 m ²
Cabin Deck		
Standard Twin	101-108	9.4 m ²



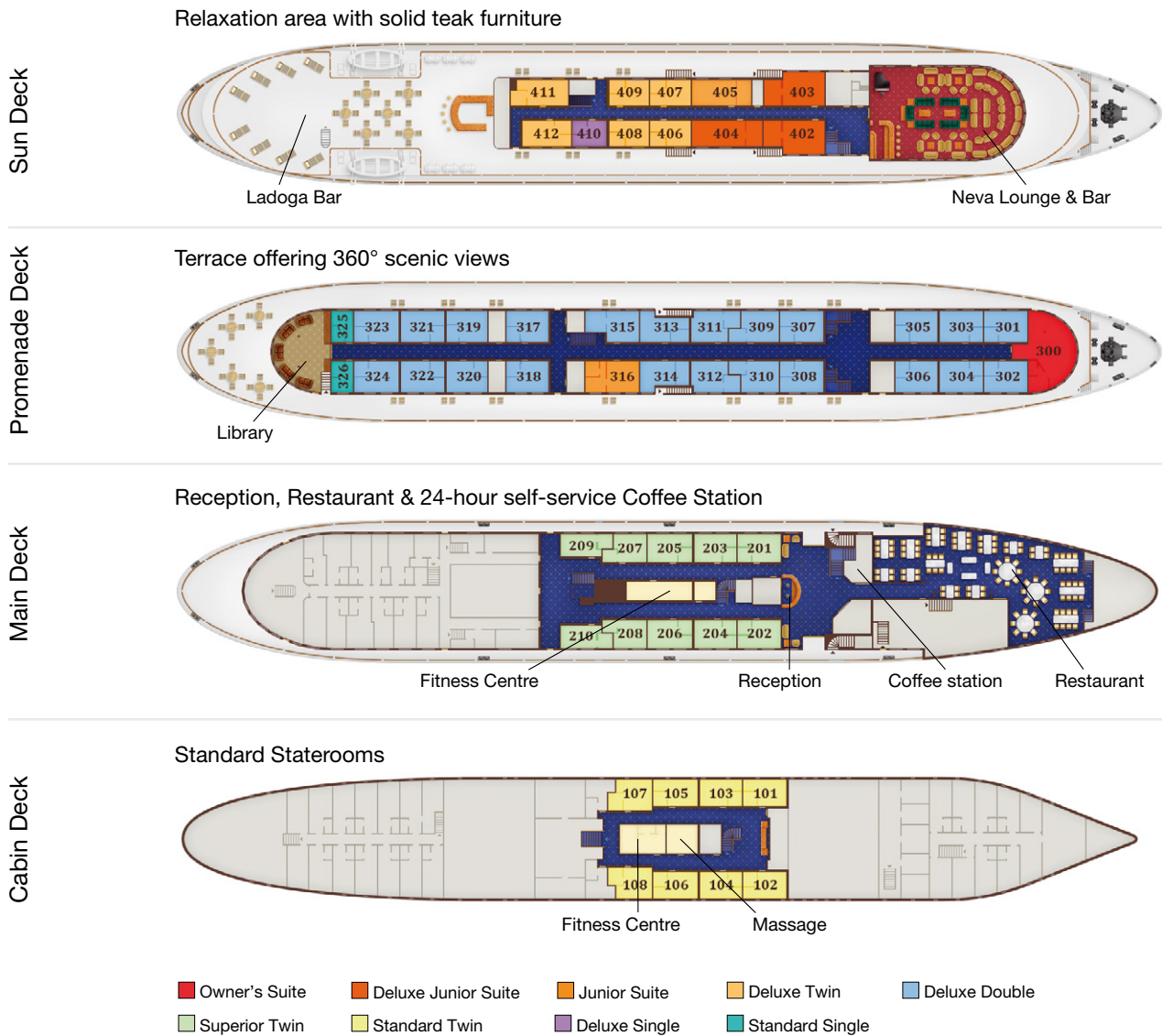
Deluxe Double 11.3m²



Kizhi

MS Volga Dream

Deck plan





Moscow, Red Square

MS Volga Dream - Hotel & Cruise Tour

Moscow to St. Petersburg or reverse - 13 days/12 nights

Gold program

Your Gold program includes daily sightseeing in groups of maximum 25 guests with ample free time for independent exploring. Your 5-star hotels in Moscow and St. Petersburg are minutes away from the major attractions.

Day 1 Moscow

Arrival Moscow. You will be met at the airport and transferred to your central 5-star St. Regis Nikolskaya or Ararat Hyatt hotel. Evening welcome meeting.

Day 2 Moscow

Morning city tour and visit to the Novodevichy Cemetery where many of Russia's famous cultural and political figures are buried. Afternoon at leisure. **B**

Day 3 Moscow

Morning visit to the Kremlin grounds and see the unique collection of tsars' treasures in the State Armoury Museum. Your tour concludes in Red Square and the rest of your day is free. **B**

Day 4 Moscow

Morning free. Midday check-out from your hotel followed by a visit to the Tretyakov Art Gallery, the first museum dedicated to Russian fine art. Then explore Moscow's

amazing metro system before you board the MS Volga Dream to begin your 6-night cruise along Russia's waterways and enjoy the Captain's welcome reception and dinner. **BD**

Day 5 Uglich

Afternoon arrival in Uglich, founded in 1148. During your walking tour of the city you will see the Church of St. Dmitry on the Blood, St. John's Church and attend a concert of choral music. **BLD**

Day 6 Yaroslavl

Morning arrival in Yaroslavl, the oldest city on the Volga River and a World Heritage Site. Visit the Church of St. Elijah the Prophet with its rich frescoes and take part in a costumed reception at the Governor's House. **BLD**

Day 7 Goritsy

Early this morning your ship crosses the White Lake to arrive in the peaceful

village of Goritsy. Visit the Kirillo-Belozersky Monastery, founded in 1397 and home to one of the world's finest collections of Russian icons. **BLD**

Day 8 Kizhi

Cruise through Lake Onega to tiny Kizhi Island with some of Russia's most famous and most intricate wooden architecture. A highlight of your walking tour is the Transfiguration Church, built from aspen in 1714 without a single nail. **BLD**

Day 9 Svir River & Svirstroy

Enjoy the scenery as your ship navigates the Svir River towards Lake Ladoga, Europe's largest freshwater lake. During WWII the frozen lake provided the only access to the besieged city of Leningrad. Visit a local resident's home where you will be welcomed warmly and offered tea with jam and piroshky (pies). Then take a bus to the nearby town to visit a local primary school. **BLD**

Day 10 St. Petersburg

Morning arrival in St. Petersburg, where you disembark the MS Volga Dream. Begin your city tour with a visit to Peter & Paul Fortress. Afternoon check-in to the Belmond Grand Hotel Europe. **B**

Day 11 St. Petersburg

Morning visit to the Hermitage Museum. After lunch, visit the magnificent Peterhof estate to stroll through the gardens and visit one of the small cottages. **BL**

Day 12 St. Petersburg

Your morning is free or you may choose to take an optional tour. This afternoon, drive to the town of Pushkin (Tsars' Village) to visit the magnificent Baroque Catherine's Palace, with its famous Amber Room. **B**

Day 13 St. Petersburg

Tour services end after breakfast with your transfer to the airport. **B**



Kizhi Island



MS Volga Dream - Hotel & Cruise Tour

Moscow to St. Petersburg or reverse - 13 days/12 nights

Platinum & Imperial programs

Your Platinum and Imperial programs offer a more intensive sightseeing experience. In addition to the major sights, you will also be treated to special highlights such as entry to St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow, with a walking tour of the nearby Park Zaryadye and a visit to Leo Tolstoy's House Museum. In St. Petersburg your special extras include early entrance to the Hermitage Museum with a tour of the Gold Room, St. Isaac's Cathedral, the Yusupov Palace, the Fabergé Museum, evening canal cruise and a performance of the Red Army Choir. Platinum guests stay at the St. Regis Moscow Nikolskaya or Ararat Park Hyatt in Moscow and the Belmond Grand Hotel Europe in St. Petersburg, while Imperial guests stay at the luxurious Four Seasons Hotels in both Moscow and St. Petersburg.

Day 1 Moscow

Arrival Moscow. You will be met at the airport and transferred to your centrally located 5-star hotel. Evening welcome meeting.

Platinum program - St. Regis Moscow Nikolskaya or Ararat Park Hyatt

Imperial program - Four Seasons

Day 2 Moscow

Begin your day with an orientation city tour. Enjoy lunch in a restaurant offering spectacular city views, then visit the Novodevichy Cemetery. **BL**

Day 3 Moscow

Morning visit to the Kremlin grounds, the 15th century Assumption and Archangel Cathedrals and State Armoury Museum.

After lunch, stroll through Red Square and GUM department store before entering the iconic St. Basil's Cathedral. A leisurely walk then takes you through the recently opened Park Zaryadye. **BL**

Day 4 Moscow

After checking out of your hotel, you visit the house museum of Leo Tolstoy, one of Russia's literary greats. Tolstoy lived in this two-story wooden house from 1882 to 1901, together with his wife and 13 children. Continue your sightseeing after lunch with a visit to the original State Tretyakov Art Gallery, followed by a tour of Moscow's Metro. Embark the MS Volga Dream and meet your crew at the Captain's welcome reception and dinner. **BLD**



Moscow, Christ the Saviour Cathedral

Day 5 Uglich

Afternoon arrival in Uglich, founded in 1148. During your walking tour of the city you will see the Church of St. Dmitry on the Blood and attend a choral concert in St. John's Church. **BLD**

Day 6 Yaroslavl

Morning arrival in Yaroslavl, the oldest city on the Volga River and a World Heritage Site. Visit the Church of St. Elijah the Prophet with its rich frescoes and take part in a costumed reception at the Governor's House. **BLD**

Day 7 Goritsy

Early this morning your ship crosses the White Lake to arrive in the peaceful village of Goritsy. Visit the Ferapontov Monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, one of the purest examples of Russian medieval art, with frescoes by Dionysius, one of Russia's most renowned icon painters. **BLD**

Day 8 Kizhi

Cruise through Lake Onega, to tiny Kizhi Island. A highlight of your walking tour is the Transfiguration Church, built from aspen in 1714 without a single nail. **BLD**

Day 9 Svir River & Svirstroy

Enjoy the scenery as your ship navigates the Svir River towards Lake Ladoga, Europe's largest freshwater lake. During WWII the frozen lake provided the only access to the besieged city of Leningrad. Visit a local resident's home where you will be warmly welcomed and offered tea

with jam and piroshky (pies). Then take a bus to the nearby town to visit a local primary school. **BLD**

Day 10 St. Petersburg

Morning arrival in St. Petersburg, where you disembark the MS Volga Dream. Begin your city tour which includes a visit to St. Isaac's Cathedral. During lunch, you will be entertained by a performance of the Red Army Choir. Enjoy a relaxing canal cruise, followed by a tour of the Yusupov Palace. This evening, check in to your centrally located hotel.

Platinum - Belmond Grand Hotel Europe
Imperial - Four Seasons Lion Palace **BL**

Day 11 St. Petersburg

Early entrance to the Hermitage Museum this morning, including the Gold Room with its collection of gold Scythian artwork and imperial gifts. After lunch, travel to the Peterhof estate to stroll through the gardens and visit one of the small cottages. **BL**

Day 12 St. Petersburg

Morning visit to the fabulous Fabergé Museum, housing the world's largest collection of objets d'art by Carl Fabergé, including nine Imperial Easter Eggs. After lunch, travel to the town of Pushkin (Tsars' Village) to visit Catherine's Palace with its famous Amber Room. **BL**

Day 13 St. Petersburg

Tour services end after breakfast with your transfer to the airport. **B**



Yaroslavl

MS Volga Dream – Hotel & Cruise Tour

St. Petersburg to Moscow – 13 days/12 nights

Gold

Day	Destination	Activities
1	St. Petersburg	Hotel check-in (after 3pm)
2	St. Petersburg	City tour, Peter & Paul Fortress
3	St. Petersburg	Hermitage, Peterhof Lower Park & small cottage
4	St. Petersburg	Hotel check-out Catherine's Palace Embarkation
5	Svirstroy	Home visit, primary school visit
6	Kizhi	Open-air Museum of Wooden Architecture
7	Goritsy	Kirillo-Belozersky Monastery
8	Yaroslavl	City tour, Church of St. Elijah the Prophet
9	Uglich	Church of St. Dmitry on the Blood, St. John's Church
10	Moscow	Disembarkation City tour, Novodevichy Cemetery Hotel check-in
11	Moscow	Kremlin & Armoury Museum, Red Square
12	Moscow	Tretyakov Art Gallery, Metro
13	Moscow	Hotel check-out (before 12pm)

Platinum & Imperial

Day	Destination	Activities
1	St. Petersburg	Hotel check-in (after 3pm)
2	St. Petersburg	City tour, St. Isaac's Cathedral, canal cruise, Yusupov Palace, Red Army Choir
3	St. Petersburg	Hermitage & Gold Room, Peterhof Lower Park & small cottage
4	St. Petersburg	Hotel check-out Fabergé Museum, Catherine's Palace Embarkation
5	Svirstroy	Home visit, primary school visit
6	Kizhi	Open-air Museum of Wooden Architecture
7	Goritsy	Ferapontov Monastery
8	Yaroslavl	City tour, Church of St. Elijah the Prophet
9	Uglich	Church of St. Dmitry on the Blood, St. John's Church
10	Moscow	Disembarkation City tour, Novodevichy Cemetery Hotel check-in
11	Moscow	Kremlin & Armoury Museum, Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral, Park Zaryadye
12	Moscow	Leo Tolstoy House Museum, Tretyakov Art Gallery, Metro
13	Moscow	Hotel check-out (before 12pm)



St. Petersburg, Catherine's Palace



St. Petersburg, St. Isaac's Cathedral



Moscow

Inclusions

- 6 nights on board MS Volga Dream in air-conditioned outside cabin
- 6 nights accommodation with breakfast in central 5-star hotels (3 nights Moscow, 3 nights St. Petersburg)
- Group arrival/departure transfers (on days 1 and 13 only)
- All meals on board MS Volga Dream including complimentary wine & soft drinks with lunch & dinner
- Restaurant meals as specified
- Bottled water replenished daily
- Sightseeing as specified with **English speaking guide**
- Entertainment and educational program on board
- Port charges

Gold

- Restaurant meals - 1 lunch
- Sightseeing excursions in group of maximum 25 guests

Your 5-star hotels

- **Moscow** - St. Regis Nikolskaya or Ararat Park Hyatt
- **St. Petersburg** - Belmond Grand Hotel Europe

** In Gold and Platinum programs, your hotels are pre-assigned based on cruise dates.*

Platinum

- Restaurant meals - 6 lunches
- Sightseeing excursions in group of maximum 16 guests
- Additional excursions - **Moscow** - Leo Tolstoy's House Museum, Park Zaryadye, St. Basil's Cathedral **St. Petersburg** - Early entrance to the Hermitage plus Gold Room, St. Isaac's Cathedral, Canal Cruise, Yusupov Palace, Fabergé Museum, Red Army Choir

Your 5-star hotels

- **Moscow** - St. Regis Nikolskaya or Ararat Park Hyatt
- **St. Petersburg** - Belmond Grand Hotel Europe

Imperial

- Restaurant meals - 6 lunches
- Private arrival/departure transfers by car (on days 1 & 13 only)
- Sightseeing excursions in group of maximum 10 guests
- Additional excursions - **Moscow** - Leo Tolstoy's House Museum, Park Zaryadye, St. Basil's Cathedral **St. Petersburg** - Early entrance to the Hermitage plus Gold Room, St. Isaac's Cathedral, Canal Cruise, Yusupov Palace, Fabergé Museum, Red Army Choir

Your 5-star hotels

- **Moscow** - Four Seasons
- **St. Petersburg** - Four Seasons Lion Palace

Cruise Tour prices & departures

Prices shown per person in AUD. Applicable 2020.

Ship/Departures	Class	Category/Deck									
		Cabin	Main	Promenade				Sun			
		Standard	Superior	Standard	Deluxe	Jnr Suite	Owners Suite	Deluxe	Jnr Suite	Deluxe Jnr Suite	
		Twn	Twn	Sgl	Dbl	Dbl	Dbl	Twn	Sgl	Dbl	Dbl
MS VOLGA DREAM											
ex Moscow											
4 Jun, 18 Jun, 1 Jul, 13 Jul, 25 Jul, 7 Aug, 20 Aug, 3 Sep, 21 Sep	Gold	5245	6045	7745	6645	7745	10945	6845	8645	7745	8645
	Platinum	6745	7545	9245	8145	9245	12445	8345	10145	9245	10145
13 Jul, 25 Jul, 7 Aug, 20 Aug, 3 Sep	Imperial	8245	9045	10745	9645	10745	13945	9845	11645	10745	11645
ex St. Petersburg											
24 Jun, 26 Aug, 27 Sep	Gold	5245	6045	7745	6645	7745	10945	6845	8645	7745	8645
	Platinum	6745	7545	9245	8145	9245	12445	8345	10145	9245	10145

■ Limited single cabins are available on Promenade and Sun Decks. For sole use of a twin or double cabin - prices are on application. For deck and cabin plans see page 7.



Uglich, Epiphany Cathedral



Goritsy, Kirillo-Belozersky Monastery



Volgograd, Mamaev Mound

MS Volga Dream - Grand Volga

Moscow to Volgograd or reverse - 12 days/11 nights

From the Golden Horde to the Soviet era, the scenic cities along Russia's grand Volga River have witnessed some of the most significant events in Russia's history. On board the boutique MS Volga Dream, you cruise from Moscow to the legendary city of Volgograd, discovering iconic onion-domed churches, medieval Nizhny Novgorod and the treasures of Yaroslavl, the oldest city on the Volga.

Day 1 Moscow

Arrival Moscow. You will be met and transferred to the MS Volga Dream to relax and enjoy dinner on board. **D**

Day 2 Moscow

This morning's city tour will introduce you to Moscow's wide boulevards and historic landmarks. Continue with a visit to the Novodevichy Cemetery, burial place of many famous Russian authors, musicians, playwrights, poets, actors, political leaders and scientists. **BLD**

Day 3 Moscow

This morning, you visit the Kremlin and explore the State Armoury Museum, housing a spectacular collection of crown jewels, thrones, carriages, Fabergé Eggs, coronation robes and more. Continue to the 15th century Assumption and Archangel Cathedrals. Re-join your ship for lunch and begin your cruise along

the waterways of Russia. Later this evening, gather for the Captain's welcome reception and dinner. **BLD**

Day 4 Uglich

Afternoon arrival in Uglich, a charming town dating back to the 10th century. Your walking tour includes the Church of St. Dmitry on the Blood where Tsar Ivan the Terrible's son was murdered, sparking a power struggle for the throne and a period of unrest known as the 'Time of Troubles'. Visit St. John's Church and enjoy a concert of choral music. **BLD**

Day 5 Yaroslavl

Morning tour of Yaroslavl, founded in 1010 by Prince Yaroslav the Wise and developed as the first port on the Volga. Visit the Spassky Monastery, the Church of St. Elijah the Prophet with its rich frescoes, and take part in a costumed reception at the Governor's House. **BLD**

Day 6 Cruising

A day to relax as the Volga Dream continues its gentle voyage along the picturesque Volga. **BLD**

Day 7 Nizhny Novgorod

Continue sailing south down the Volga, to arrive in Nizhny Novgorod, one of Russia's main commercial centres. During Soviet times the city was renamed Gorky after the famous Soviet writer. It became the place of exile for dissident physicist Andrei Sakharov and was closed to foreigners. During your city tour you will walk the ramparts of the 16th century Kremlin and later attend a children's folk concert. **BLD**

Day 8 Kazan

This afternoon, disembark in the ancient city of Kazan, capital of the Tatarstan Republic and the land of the Volga Tatars who were allies of the Mongols. Ivan the

Terrible conquered Kazan in 1552 and forced its Muslim ruler to convert to Christianity. During your city tour you'll see the Kremlin and within its walls - the Qolsharif Mosque. Later you will be entertained by a local Tatar folk group. **BLD**

Day 9 Samara

Mid-morning arrival in Samara, where you will have a city tour and visit the Space Museum. Afterwards, stroll along the Volga esplanade and visit the Samara State Art Museum. Closed to foreigners in the period following WWII, Samara is now the third largest metropolitan area in Russia after Moscow and St. Petersburg. **BLD**

Day 10 Saratov

Arrival in Saratov - the northernmost colony of the Greek Empire. During the Cold War, Saratov was the centre of Russian military aircraft production. The world's first cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin, was a member of the Saratov Flying Club. You will have a city tour and visit the Radishchev Art Museum. **BLD**

Day 11 Volgograd

Today you visit Volgograd, known as Stalingrad from 1925 until 1961. The city is famous as the site of one of the pivotal battles of WWII. During your tour of this 'Hero City' you will visit the dramatic Mamaev Mound, with its giant sword-wielding statue of Mother Russia standing guard on its summit. Continue with a tour of the Panorama Museum, dedicated to the Battle of Stalingrad. **BLD**

Day 12 Volgograd

Tour services end after breakfast with your transfer to the airport. **B**



Yuri Gagarin



Nizhny Novgorod

MS Volga Dream - Grand Volga

Volgograd to Moscow - 12 days/11 nights

Day	Destination	Activities
1	Volgograd	Embarkation (after 5pm)
2	Volgograd	Mamaev Mound, Panorama Museum
3	Saratov	City tour, Radishchev Art Museum
4	Samara	City tour, Space Museum, Samara State Art Museum
5	Kazan	City tour, Kremlin, folk concert
6	Nizhny Novgorod	City tour, children's concert
7	Cruising	On board history lecture
8	Yaroslavl	City tour, Church of St. Elijah the Prophet
9	Uglich	Church of St. Dmitry on the Blood, Church of the Transfiguration
10	Moscow	City tour, Novodevichy Cemetery
11	Moscow	Kremlin & Cathedral, Armoury Museum, Old Tretyakov Art Gallery, Metro
12	Moscow	Disembarkation (before 12pm)



Kazan, Qolsharif Mosque

Inclusions

- 11 nights on board MS Volga Dream in air-conditioned outside cabin
- All meals on board including complimentary wine & soft drinks with lunch & dinner
- Group arrival/departure transfers (on days 1 & 12 only)
- Restaurant meals - 1 lunch in Moscow
- Bottled water replenished daily
- Sightseeing excursions with **English speaking** guide in group of maximum 25 guests
- Entertainment and educational program on board
- Port charges

Cruise prices & departures

Prices shown per person in AUD. Applicable 2020.

Ship/Sailing Dates	Category/Deck									
	Cabin	Main	Promenade				Sun			
	Standard	Superior	Standard	Deluxe	Jnr Suite	Owners Suite	Deluxe		Jnr Suite	Deluxe Jnr Suite
	Twn	Twn	Sgl	Dbl	Dbl	Dbl	Twn	Sgl	Dbl	Dbl
MS VOLGA DREAM										
ex Volgograd										
7 May	4745	5545	7245	6145	7245	10445	6345	8145	7245	8145
ex Moscow										
6 Oct	4745	5545	7245	6145	7245	10445	6345	8145	7245	8145
ex St. Petersburg - Russian Odyssey (18 days/17 nights) Ask us for details.										
30 Sep	6745	7545	9245	8145	9245	12445	8345	10145	9245	10145

■ Limited single cabins are available on Promenade and Sun Decks. For sole use of a twin or double cabin - prices are on application. For deck and cabin plans see page 7.



Useful information

Australian Government travel information

We recommend that you refer to the websites of the Australian and New Zealand Ministries of Foreign Affairs: www.smarttraveller.gov.au and www.safetravel.govt.nz. Here you will find general travel tips and information, as well as specific Travel Advisories, which provide information about the security in a particular country.

Clothing

We recommend casual and comfortable clothing. Please ensure you have comfortable walking shoes, a hat and umbrella. We suggest you bring layers of clothing that can be removed or added as required. In the evenings, smart casual attire is fine. You may wish to wear something more formal for the Captain's Welcome Cocktail Party and Farewell Dinner.

Currency

The local currency in Russia is the Rouble. The official on board currency is the Russian Rouble. All passengers will have their own ship account, which allows them to sign for purchases and services such as bar drinks, telephone calls, laundry, etc. throughout the

cruise. You may then settle your bill by credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express) or cash (Roubles only) at the end of the cruise. Travellers cheques, debit cards and personal cheques are not accepted. Please carefully review your shipboard bill upon checkout.

The ship is not able to offer a money-changing service on board. Major credit cards can also be used in many restaurants, shops and hotels. Cash will be required for smaller purchases, such as drinks or souvenirs. Roubles, USD and sometimes Euros, can be withdrawn from ATM machines, which are widely available in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Before leaving Australia, check with your bank to ensure that the card/s you are carrying will be accepted at the major ATMs. Please do not take travellers cheques, as they can be difficult to exchange.

Dietary requirements

Special dietary requests such as vegetarian, low salt and low cholesterol should be made to Volga Dream Cruises (in writing) at least six weeks prior to departure. However, we recommend that you contact the Maitre d' once on board to reconfirm such requests. We regret that the ship is unable to guarantee

special requests and is not equipped to prepare or serve kosher or halal cuisine.

Gratuities/Tips

Gratuities for shipboard personnel and local guides are not included in the cruise fare and are at the passenger's discretion.

Medical Care

A local doctor is available on board 24 hours a day. A fee is charged for any medication prescribed. If you have any special medicines, it is essential that you bring adequate supplies with you, as there is only a limited range of medicines available in Russia. On Russia's large lakes, the ships can experience slight ocean-like motion. If you are susceptible to motion sickness, ask your doctor for a short-term remedy for the short time that you will be cruising in these lakes.

On board language

The major on board language for MS Volga Dream is English and all on board announcements will be in English, even though there may be other nationalities on board. All service crew speak English. Shore excursions will be conducted by a professional English-speaking guide. Gold program

groups will comprise a maximum of 25 guests, Platinum 16 guests and Imperial 10 guests.

Privacy

We will not pass on your details to third parties for purposes other than securing your travel reservations.

Travellers with special needs

Guests with medical, physical or other special needs should advise Russian Travel Centre/Eastern Europe Travel at the time of booking. MS Volga Dream does not have an elevator between decks. The ship and most tourist attractions generally do not have the facilities to accommodate wheelchairs or physically challenged passengers. Shore excursions may include walks of up to 2km on uneven ground. Passengers using wheelchairs are advised to have a travelling companion to assist them. Special requests such as wheelchair suitable accommodation and touring must be made to us in writing by your travel agent and confirmed by us in writing.

Voltage

Voltage on board ship is 220V. Plugs are normally round two-pin European type.



Booking conditions

Deposits

To secure your Cruise Tour reservation, a non-refundable deposit of 20% of the cruise tour price is due within 7 days of receipt of the confirmation invoice.

Balance of payment

Balance of payment is due 90 days prior to commencement of Cruise Tour.

eNett code: 300526

Paymentgate code: EET

Credit card payments

Credit card payments incur a merchant fee of 1.4% for Visa and MasterCard and 2% for American Express.

Amendments

One amendment may be made without charge; subsequent amendments will incur a service charge of \$55 per amendment.

Cancellations

All cancellations must be received in writing. The following charges will apply to services cancelled prior to the commencement date of Cruise Tour.

90 days or more.....	loss of deposit 20%
89-31 days	50%
30 days or fewer.....	100%

Documentation

Documentation is generally issued approximately 3 weeks prior to departure. If you are departing prior to that, please notify us and we will endeavour to obtain documentation earlier. This may, in some cases, result in additional cost.

Passports & visas

It is the responsibility of the passenger to ensure they have a passport that is valid for 6 months after travel arrangements have concluded. Australian and New Zealand passport holders require a visa for travel to Russia. Please consult your travel consultant for up-to-date information. The visa costs are not included in the Cruise Tour price. To avoid visa issuance delays for Russia, passport details should be provided at time of booking.

Important note: If booking pre and post Cruise Tour arrangements, the Russian Embassy/Consulate will only accept visa support documentation from a maximum of two Russian operators for the entire stay in Russia, one of which will come from the cruise company. The maximum duration of a tourist visa for Russia is 30 days. Detailed information

for obtaining Russian visas can be found on the websites - Consulate General of Russia in Sydney: www.sydney.mid.ru and Embassy of the Russian Federation in Canberra www.australia.mid.ru

Insurance

It is strongly recommended that adequate travel insurance is taken out at the time of booking to cover you in the event of unavoidable cancellation.

Itinerary & sightseeing changes

Itineraries are subject to change and may need to be adjusted or cancelled, due to water levels or weather conditions. The cruise company reserves the right to change itineraries where deemed necessary.

Brochure validity

Prices and information are correct at the time of printing (April 2019); however, due to factors beyond our control, such as currency fluctuations, they are subject to change. Once full payment has been received, no additional charges will apply.

New Zealand bookings

All bookings made through the New Zealand GSA, the Innovative Travel

Company Ltd, are fully subject to all New Zealand Terms of Trade as specified by the Innovative Travel Company Ltd. For further information, please contact the Innovative Travel Company Ltd.

Acts of God, strike or other conditions beyond control

Russian Travel Centre will not be liable for delay or inability to perform any condition in this brochure caused by strikes, lockout or labour difficulties or shortages, explosions, fire, collision, breakdown or damage to the vessel, civil commotion, riot, insurrection, war, government restraint, requisition of the vessel, political disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, Acts of God, or other circumstances beyond our control.

Responsibility

Russian Travel Centre/Eastern Europe Travel acts as an agent for the cruise company. Neither Russian Travel Centre/Eastern Europe Travel nor the cruise company will accept liability for any injury, damages, loss, accident, delay, whether occasioned by coach, boat or any other conveyance. All vouchers, coupons and tickets are issued subject to the terms and conditions specified by the suppliers.

RUSSIA

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2019



Your Travel Agent

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