



Come join the Clear Lake Area Ski Club

Imperial Russia Adventure

TSC Fall Expedition Sept 1 - 9, 2022, 8 days



Estimated Full Package \$3999*
Estimated Ground Package \$2799* (no air)

(Non-ski trip)

Single room prices are available

Limited Space available on this trip! Sign up EARLY!!

A Russia Visa is required for this trip.. Not included.

Current Air price reflects a \$300 discount - good only through March 2, 2022.

Optional Extension

Post-trip Extension: Helsinki - TBD

Estimated Payment schedule:
\$500 pp deposit due at Registration
\$Final payment due by July 3, 2022
Registration and trip payments will be made through the Collette website. (TBA)

Travel Insurance is available through Collette.
Must be purchased at time of Registration.

Air and Land: \$329 pp
Land only: \$299 pp

Highlights: 8 day package includes:

- Air between Houston and Moscow
- Breakfast daily
- 1 Lunch and 3 Dinners
- All ground transfers
- 3 nights in Moscow, 4* Moscow Marriott Grand Hotel
- Day tours: Kremlin, Red Square, Assumption Cathedral, Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow Metro
- Traditional Russian dinner
- High-speed train from Moscow to St. Petersburg
- 4 nights in St. Petersburg, 4* Angleterre Hotel St. Petersburg
- Day tours: Winter Palace, Catherine Palace, Hermitage
- Traditional Georgian dinner
- Other optional tours in St. Petersburg
- Return Air St. Petersburg to Houston

Tour Operator: Collette



For more information, contact Trip Leader:
Nancy Steger, nhstegerclasc@yahoo.com

\$100 reservation deposit will hold your spot and is refundable until Jan 7, 2022. Make checks payable to CLASC, mail to CLASC at P.O Box 58623, Houston TX 77258

*Prices are estimates for CLASC members only, based on double occupancy, do not include baggage fees, insurance or Visa, and are subject to change.

Day 1: Thursday, Sept 1 Overnight Flight You're on your way to one of the most magnificent countries in Europe.

Day 2: Friday, Sept 2, Moscow, Russia - Tour Begins Welcome to Moscow, Russia's glamorous capital city where beguiling architecture, complex history, and posh culture thrive. Let the energy of this intriguing city wrap around you and inspire your curiosity. Rest of the day on your own to rest or explore.

Day 3: Saturday, Sept 3 (B, D) (Meals included)

Your journey through Moscow begins with a short ride on the Metro, one of the deepest and most ornate public transit systems in the world. Arrive at the Kremlin (UNESCO), the seat of power in Russia. This fortress complex is a can't-miss glimpse into Russian history. Enjoy a guided visit of the Armoury Museum, home to a priceless collection of Imperial crown jewels, weaponry, and Faberge eggs. Next, visit the Assumption Cathedral.* In the bustling Red Square of Moscow,** pause to admire the iconic domes of Saint Basil's Cathedral. Next, visit GUM, the lavish department store at the heart of the city. This evening, enjoy a traditional Russian dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 4: Sunday, Sept 4 (B)

This morning, travel on Moscow's Metro. Enjoy stops along the way to marvel at the lavish mosaics, ornate stained glass and stunning architecture, each stop on the Metro is like a mini-museum with its own unique allure. Then, **it's your choice!** Choose between a themed tour, "Back to the USSR," where you'll gain insight into the tensions between the U.S. and former Soviet Union and the great "Space Race" -OR- take a guided tour of the Tretyakov Gallery, one of the most significant art museums in Russia with over 100,000 artistic works. Next, a local expert reveals a bit about life "behind the Iron Curtain," during an informative lecture about Soviet society. The evening is yours to soak in the splendors of your final night in Moscow.

Day 5: Monday, Sept 5, Moscow - St. Petersburg (B, L)

Later this morning, an epicurean adventure awaits! Get a taste of local flavor as you stroll the streets with a local guide and savor authentic dishes found on the tables of many Russian families. This afternoon, hop aboard a high-speed train to St. Petersburg, the "Venice of the North" and Russia's Imperial capital. The evening is on your own.

Day 6: Tuesday, Sept 6 St. Petersburg (B, D)

Experience the Imperial Russia of your dreams, full of regal beauty and iconic sights. A panoramic tour of St. Petersburg brings this historic city to life. See St. Isaac's Cathedral, the Peter and Paul Fortress, and the famed Palace Square. Go inside the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood, St. Petersburg's most elaborate church. After getting acquainted with this vibrant city, you can opt to spend the remainder of your day at leisure or take an **optional tour** (\$50) of the meticulously landscaped grounds and soaring fountains *** of the Peterhof Grand Palace, better known as the "Russian Versailles." Tonight, delight in traditional Georgian cuisine at a favorite local restaurant. Savor the exotic comfort food and drink of a region that has been producing wine for over 8,000 years.

Day 7: Wednesday, Sept 7 (B)

Welcome to the Winter Palace, St. Petersburg's most iconic building and the former home of Russian tsars. Built for Peter the Great, a true glimpse into the glory of Russian aristocracy. Make your way to the incredible Hermitage Museum for a guided tour. Second in size only to the Louvre, the Hermitage is home to the largest collection of paintings in the world. The evening is on your own, or take in an **optional night** at the Russian Ballet. (\$130)

Day 8: Thursday, Sept 8 (B, D)

Take a step back in time with a tour of the magnificent Catherine Palace. Built in 1717, it was once the summer home of Russian tsars.. Enjoy exclusive early access here. Next, we'll see St. Petersburg from a different perspective - from the interior of a vintage Soviet car! Tonight, get one final taste of Russian culture and cuisine during a farewell dinner and traditional folk show.

Day 9: Friday, Sept 9, St. Petersburg - Tour Ends (B) Today, say *do-svidaniya* (goodbye for now) to Russia as your Imperial journey comes to a close. Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

* When the Assumption Cathedral is not available, we will visit either the Cathedral of the Annunciation or the Cathedral of the Archangel. ** Red Square may be closed/blocked at any time. *** The fountains do not run year-round.