

Roberta Shaw's
Russian Art & History Tour
September 10 - 24, 2008

Moscow & St. Petersburg are two of the world's most exhilarating cities for those interested in art and history. Art lovers know of the great wealth of Western European and world art in St. Petersburg's Hermitage and in Moscow's Pushkin Museum, but many Americans are unaware of the richness of the Russian visual arts - the splendid architecture and the exceptional paintings and decorative arts to be found in museums, churches and palaces. I have carefully planned this trip to include as many of my favorite sites as possible, yet keeping the pace relaxed and allowing some free time.

Late September - "Golden Autumn" as the Russians call this season - is an ideal time to visit; the climate is usually still moderate, and the opera and ballet seasons typically begin. (Our excellent Tour Managers in Russia can assist in the purchase of tickets for performances.)

I invite you to join me on this visit!

Roberta



Itinerary – 2008

Day 1, Wednesday, Sep. 10

Depart U.S.A. for Moscow.

Day 2, Thursday, Sep. 11

Arrive **Moscow**. Transfer to the centrally located, new and beautiful Courtyard by Marriott Hotel for four nights' stay. In the evening, we gather for a Welcome Dinner.

Day 3, Friday, Sep. 12

Morning city tour of **Moscow** begins with **Red Square**, site of the famous **St. Basil's Cathedral**. We visit the historic **Kremlin**, one of the world's most beautiful and interesting architectural complexes, and tour the **Armory Museum**, a treasure house of royal regalia - such as the Diamond Throne, the golden throne of Boris Godunov, the crowns of Ivan the Terrible, coronation gowns, lavish carriages, and Faberge Imperial Eggs. We also make a special visit to the **Diamond Fund** to marvel at Russia's most precious crown jewels, including the extraordinary Diamond Crown of Catherine the Great. Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 4, Saturday, Sep. 13

Tour of the **Tretyakov Gallery of Art**, the repository of great Russian art, from medieval icons to intriguing social realist paintings of the late 19th C., to the avant garde art of the early 20th C.

Free time this afternoon and evening for optional tours, or for attending a cultural performance independently.

Day 5, Sunday, Sep. 14

Day trip to **Sergiev Posad (Zagorsk)**, 80 km northeast of Moscow, to visit the famous Trinity St. Sergius Monastery, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, which has been the heart of the Russian Orthodox Church for over 600 years. It is one of the finest monuments of Russian culture, with great historical importance and a wealth of ecclesiastic architecture and art. Lunch at a local restaurant. Return to Moscow and visit the **Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts** with its excellent collection of European art (especially Post-Impressionists, Matisse and Picasso). We can then briefly visit the newly rebuilt, magnificent Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer, just across the street. Independent dinner and optional evening performance, depending on schedules.

Day 6, Monday, Sep. 15

This morning, we return to the Kremlin to visit areas not normally open to tourists: the magnificent, recently restored **Grand Kremlin Palace**, the **Palace of Facets** with the splendid 15th C. throne room, and the colorfully decorated **Terem Palace**, the 17th C. residence of the first Romanov tsars. This visit is by special arrangement and availability is subject to State affairs. We also visit the three famous Kremlin cathedrals of the 15th and 16th centuries. After lunch we depart Moscow and drive by motor coach through the countryside to the "**Golden Ring**" cities of Vladimir and **Suzdal**, a charming, picturesque and well-preserved medieval town filled with beautiful old churches, monasteries, and homes. Here we will dine and spend the night.

Day 7, Tuesday, Sep. 16

Tour of **Suzdal's** unique monuments including the cathedral, the Kremlin, and the delightful outdoor museum of old wooden village architecture. After lunch we will spend some time seeing the sights of **Vladimir**, one of the oldest cities in Russia, with its handsome 12th C. churches, and its famous Great Gate. In the evening we drive back to Moscow and transfer to the railway station for the overnight sleeper train to St. Petersburg. We travel in comfortable First Class, two-berth compartments.

Day 8, Wednesday, Sep. 17

8:00 a.m. arrival in **St. Petersburg** - transfer to a charming, new, small hotel "Pushka Inn", centrally located very near the Hermitage Museum, for a stay of seven nights. Morning is free to relax, or stroll on the famous Nevsky

Prospect. Following lunch we embark on an introductory sight-seeing tour of this remarkable city by motor coach. Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 9, Thursday, Sep. 18

Tour of the **Hermitage** - one of the world's greatest museums; a huge collection of the finest European art housed in the splendid 18th C. Winter Palace. Included is a visit to the special collection in the **Gold Room** with its ancient Scythian, oriental and European gold work and jewelry. Independent lunch in the museum's café. Afternoon free to continue exploring the Hermitage. Return to the hotel (virtually "next door") at your leisure. Dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 10, Friday, Sep. 19

Morning: the **Ethnographic Museum**, a gem too often missed by tourists - a marvelous collection of objects made and used by peoples of the many ethnic groups of the former Soviet Union. We will have a special tour of this wonderful "folk art". Then we board a small boat for a **private cruise** of the city's canals. As our guide points out historic buildings along the embankments, we enjoy a "picnic" lunch on board. Afternoon and evening free, perhaps with an optional performance.

Day 11, Saturday, Sep. 20

Day trip: We drive outside the city for a morning visit to **Pavlovsk**, the grand neo-classical palace built by Catherine the Great for her son, Paul. Lunch at Podvorye Restaurant with lively Russian folklore show and traditional food. Afternoon visit to **Pushkin**, also known as **Tsarskoe Selo** (tsar's village), and the elegant rococo **Catherine Palace** with its famous Amber Room. Both these palaces are set in beautifully landscaped grounds. We return to the city for a free evening.

Day 12, Sunday, Sep. 21

This morning we visit the impressive **Peter and Paul Fortress**, one of the first structures which Peter the Great ordered to be built after founding his new city in 1703. We will visit the cathedral, burial place of Romanov royalty. Afternoon is free. We gather for dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 13, Monday, Sep. 22

We tour the **Russian Museum**, a wonderful collection of 800 years of Russian art, housed in a stately palace. After independent lunch in the museum's café, we tour the exquisite **Yusupov Palace**, known for its ornate interior and as the site where the infamous Rasputin was killed in 1916. There will be a special private reception for us this evening at the beautiful 19th C. Neidgart Mansion, with champagne by the fireplace followed by a Festive Dinner, with lively musical entertainment.

Day 14, Tuesday, Sep. 23

Full day excursion to **Peterhof (Petrodvorets)**, Peter the Great's lavish palace on the Gulf of Finland, considered one of the most splendid collections of waterworks, fountains, gardens and statuary in all of Europe. Lunch in a café on the grounds. Return to the city for a free evening.

Day 15, Wednesday, Sep. 24

After breakfast, transfer to St. Petersburg airport for our flight, arriving in the U.S. the same day.

* * *

NOTE: UNESCO designates as **World Heritage Sites** places which are considered to be of great historic, artistic, scenic or scientific value to the world. There are four such Sites featured on this tour:

Kremlin and Red Square, Moscow
Architectural Ensemble of Trinity Sergius Lavra (Monastery) in Sergiev Posad
White Monuments of Vladimir and Suzdal (Medieval white stone buildings)
Historic Center of St. Petersburg and Related Groups of Monuments

More details and photographs of these Sites can be viewed at the website of the UNESCO World Heritage Center: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/>

Scroll down to "Russia", then click on the sites listed above.

For even more general information, follow the Links given below the descriptions.

* * *

About Roberta Shaw:

Roberta has taught art history in colleges and in Lifelong Learning programs in the U.S. and overseas. Currently she lectures in the San Francisco Bay Area. She has a B.A. from Stanford University in History with Honors in Humanities, and an M.A. from University of California, Berkeley, in Art History. For the past 22 years she has specialized in Russian Art History.

She is well-traveled, having lived abroad in three countries for a total of over eight years, and having spent some time in more than 60 countries.

This will be her eleventh trip to Russia, over a 24 year period, and she is looking forward to sharing her knowledge and love of the history, the arts, the culture and the people of Russia with you.

For reservations contact:

Debbie Chapman

GLOBAL TRAVEL

1333 Willow Pass Rd., Ste 214

Concord, CA 94520

Tel: 925 687 8411 Fax: 925 685 5899

E-Mail: uniglobect@aol.com Website: www.russiantravel.com

(Information from this brochure will be available on the website.)

For general information about the tour, contact: **Roberta Shaw**

E-Mail: shawroberta@hotmail.com Tel: 510 528 0708

GLOBAL TRAVEL

1333 Willow Pass Road, Suite 214

Concord, California 94520

925-687-8411

**Roberta Shaw's 2008 Russian Art & History Tour
Moscow & St. Petersburg
September 10 - 24, 2008**

TOUR CONDITIONS

Tour Price Disclaimer: Prices given below are subject to fluctuation. At the time of preparing this brochure (October, 2008), the Russian hotels have not finalized their rates for Fall 2008. The following prices are our best estimate, subject to final confirmation.

Approximate Tour Price, Land Only. Airfare not included.

\$6350.00	12-14 passengers	Per Person Double Occupancy
\$6090.00	15-19 passengers	Per Person Double Occupancy
\$5840.00	20-24 passengers	Per Person Double Occupancy
\$5500.00	25 passengers	Per Person Double Occupancy

Price is per person based on double occupancy. Single supplement is \$1600.00. A single is not available on the overnight train. Tour includes 4 nights at the First Class Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in Moscow (or similar), one night at the Pokrovsky Monastery Hotel (or similar) in Suzdal, 7 nights at the First Class Pushka Inn in St. Petersburg, breakfast daily, and all taxes; modern, Air Conditioned coaches for sightseeing and transfers; English speaking guides throughout the tour; First class, 2-berth compartments on the overnight train from Moscow to St. Petersburg; sightseeing and excursions as outlined in the itinerary; 7 lunches and 7 dinners, portorage of 2 bags per person. Land tour personally escorted by Roberta Shaw. Not included: Russian visa (approx. \$200.00), gratuities to Russian guides and drivers, and trip cancellation insurance.

Please note: This tour is relatively strenuous in that there is quite a bit of walking required in the cities and at the sites to be visited, plus lots of stairs.

Group size: The first price listed above is based on a minimum of 12, and subject to an increase if group is smaller. Maximum group size is 25. We will overbook slightly to allow for cancellations.

Reservations and Payment Land: A deposit of \$400 per person, payable to Global Travel is required at time of booking. Final payment is due no later than 75 days prior to departure. Late payments may incur a penalty.

Air Reservations: Global Travel will be happy to assist you with air reservations. At this time, no group air arrangements are available.

Cancellations and Refunds Land: Full refunds minus a \$400.00 administrative charge will be made for cancellations made in writing up to 60 days prior to departure. Written cancellations received 32-59 days prior to departure are subject to a penalty of 50% of the land tour cost. Cancellations received 31 or fewer days prior to departure are subject to a penalty of 100% of the land tour cost.

Trip Cancellation Insurance: Important - We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance, available through our office. To cover pre-existing conditions, **insurance must be purchased within seven days of deposit.**

RESERVATION REQUEST ROBERTA SHAW'S 2008 RUSSIAN ART & HISTORY TOUR

*Please read the **Consumer Disclosure Notice** on the bottom of this sheet. It constitutes part of your contract for Travel-related services:*

This signed form must accompany a \$400.00 per person deposit, payable to Global Travel. In order to reduce costs, we can accept payment by check only.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone day: _____ Evening: _____

Email address _____

Check here if you are reserving space as a single and would like to share if an appropriate roommate could be found.

Check here if you are a single, sharing with a roommate _____

Name of Roommate

Check here ___ if you are a single who does not wish to share.

Signature _____

(Print page and cut here; return top half) - - - - -

CONSUMER DISCLOSURE NOTICE - PART OF YOUR CONTRACT OF SERVICE

Uniglobe Connoisseur Travel dba Global Travel (Global Travel) and Roberta Shaw act only as agents for the hotels, airlines, bus companies, railroads, ship lines, or owners or contractors providing accommodations, transportation or other services, and all coupons, exchange orders, vouchers, receipts, contracts and tickets issued by Global Travel are issued subject to any and all tariffs, terms and conditions under which any accommodations, transportation or any other services whatsoever are provided by such hotels, airlines, bus companies, railroads, ship lines or owners or contractors or by persons in their employ. Global Travel and Roberta Shaw are not responsible for personal injury or property damage or loss arising out of the act or negligence of any direct air carrier, hotel or other person rendering any of the services or accommodations offered herein. The tour member agrees to the foregoing and also agrees that Global Travel and Roberta Shaw shall not be or become liable or responsible for any loss, injury or damage to person, property or otherwise in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services, resulting directly or indirectly from any acts of God, dangers incident to the sea, fire, breakdown in machinery or equipment, acts of government or other authorities de jure or de facto, wars whether declared or not, hostilities, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantines, medical or custom regulations, defaults, delays or cancellations of or changes in itinerary or schedules, or from any causes beyond Global Travel or Roberta Shaw's control, or for any loss or damage resulting from insufficient or improperly issued passports, visas or other documents, and that neither Global Travel or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries shall be or become liable or responsible for any additional expenses or liability sustained or incurred by the tour member as a result of any of the foregoing causes. Global Travel reserves the right to refuse to accept or retain any person as a member of a tour at any time, or to make changes in the itinerary whenever, in its sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if such changes result from circumstances beyond the control of Global Travel, or if it deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the passengers.

California Seller of Travel Number – 2003309-10