



River Victoria

11 nights

Imperial Waterways of Russia

May - July 2019



Save up to 30% on selected Departures

Summary

Discover the passion and grandeur of Russian history, art and culture.

The imperial cities, grand artistic treasures and spectacular architecture of Russia await your arrival. From the glittering metropolises of St. Petersburg and Moscow to the timeless towns along the Golden Ring, you'll experience Russia in all its glory and splendor.

Stand in awe of the massive Kremlin complex, onion-domed St. Basil's Cathedral and the extravagant Moscow metro system. See some of Russia's vast and beautiful countryside as well as its delightful small towns, where locals still engage in traditional crafts. Cruise along the Golden Ring to some of Russia's most beautiful cities, including Uglich and Yaroslavl, which are known for their white-stone churches and gorgeous monasteries. Be amazed by Kizhi Island's UNESCO-designated Transfiguration Church. And uncover regal St. Petersburg, which boasts art-laden galleries and museums, fabled canals and elegant architecture from a wide variety of eras.

Overview

Country:	Russia
Cities:	Moscow, Uglich, Yaroslavl, Goritsky, Kizhi Island, Mandrogi, St Petersburg
Season:	May - July 2019
Duration:	12 days / 11 nights
Port of departure:	Moscow
Starting Price:	\$ 6,999

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Itinerary

Day 1: Moscow (Embark)

Arrive at Moscow's Airport and transfer to the ship.

Meals: Dinner

Day 2: Moscow

See the city's most iconic sights (as well as some under-the-radar secrets) with a savvy local expert, both above ground and below. Glamorous, grand, gorgeous and sometimes maddening, Moscow is Russia's principal city. Founded in 1156, it was the capital of the medieval nation. Moscow lost its status as capital to St. Petersburg under Peter the Great, but it never lost its significance to Russia, and it has reestablished its dominance over the nation's culture, politics and economy during the past century. Choice of Panoramic City Tour or Moscow "Do as the Locals Do"

A special Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner will be prepared for you this evening.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Welcome dinner

Day 3: Moscow

Free day at leisure

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 4: Cruising the Moscow Canal and Volga River, Uglich

On today's excursion to a beautiful Golden Ring city deep in the Russian countryside, you'll encounter the scene of a centuries-old murder mystery that has become the stuff of legend. While cruising through the 80-mile (128-kilometer) Moscow Canal, you'll get your first glimpse of rural Russia on your way to Uglich.

Heading north on the Volga, you'll come to one of the loveliest cities of the Golden Ring, as the group of towns that played significant roles in Russian history are known. As you approach the delightful and picturesque town of Uglich in the afternoon, be prepared for a panorama of magnificent architectural monuments.

Choice of Uglich "Do as the Locals Do" tour or Walking discovery tour with Church of St. Dmitry on the Blood.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 5: Yaroslavl, Cruising Lake Rybinsk

Credit for Yaroslavl's well-designed, UNESCO-protected city center goes to none other than Catherine the Great, who was even more than a mighty Russian ruler—she was a forward-thinking urban planner as well. Visit an Orthodox church and a lively market, then kick back aboard a scenic lake cruise.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Day 6: Goritsy (Kirillov), Cruising Lake Onega

Beyond Russia's major cities lies a completely different world—the fabled land of Mother Russia, celebrated for centuries in art, songs and great works of literature. Explore two rural villages today for an authentic and unforgettable glimpse of everyday life in a Russian province. Two tiny villages are your destination today: Goritsy, a farming settlement on the Sheksna River, and Kirillov, which may be small but has extraordinary churches linked to the tsars.

Choice of A visit to Saint Cyril on the White Lake Monastery or Goritsy "Village Day"

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7: Kizhi Island, Cruising the Svir River

To approach the wooden Church of Transfiguration from the water, with its multitude of shingled onion domes and unmistakable silhouette, can be, well, a transformative experience. Step ashore for an up-close view of this incredible church—built without a single nail—and explore the island's famous open-air museum and its 89 traditional wooden structures. Kizhi Island, which seemingly floats between sky and water in the midst of Lake Onega, is home to one of Russia's iconic sights, the all-wood Church of Transfiguration.

Choice of Open-air Museum of Wooden Architecture or "Let's Go" village and island nature hike

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8: Cruising the Svir River, Mandrogi, Cruising Lake Ladoga

Travel back in time to the 19th century at a reconstructed Russian village populated by talented artisans who make handmade items using old-world materials and techniques. Other highlights today include a rustic shashlik picnic lunch onshore and a cruise on a pristine freshwater lake. A reconstructed village on the shore of the Svir River, Mandrogi illustrates the traditions and lifestyles of Russia's past.

Choice of Mandrogi "Village Day" walking tour with shashlik picnic lunch ashore or Exploring crafts stores and watching artisans at work or "Let's Go" village hike

Later, your ship cruises along the southern shores of Lake Ladoga, a vast freshwater inland sea that was once connected to the Baltic Sea.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9: St. Petersburg

With its grand Italian architectures and austere Nordic setting, St. Petersburg is a city of canals, palaces and cathedrals that presents a glorious juxtaposition of East and West. See the sights by land as well as water, then experience an art form that is quintessentially Russian—an evening at the ballet. The brainchild of Peter the Great, St. Petersburg was built on 42 islands on the Neva delta, in what was essentially a swamp. The tsar lavished on it all the might, ambition and money at his disposal, importing the finest architects from Italy, the greatest decorative artists and the most celebrated painters: The result is an extraordinarily beautiful city.

Choice of Glorious Saint Petersburg: panoramic highlights tour & canal cruise or St. Petersburg "Do as the Locals Do" tour with canal cruise and Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood visit

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Day 10: St. Petersburg

Cross the threshold of the summer residence of the tsars—the lavishly decorated Catherine Palace—where you'll see opulent staterooms and the near mythic Amber Room, meticulously restored to its former glory.

Dine on traditional Russian fare at a local restaurant, then spend the rest of the day exploring on your own. On your second day in St. Petersburg, you'll enjoy a guided tour through splendid Catherine Palace and Park. Then, spend the rest of your day on your own exploring more of this beautiful city or join a tour to Peterhof Gardens—a treat for anyone interested in landscape design.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 11: St. Petersburg

Spend your last day in St. Petersburg at what many experts consider the finest art museum in the world, the legendary Hermitage, a former residence of the tsars that's now home to a massive and mind-boggling collection of priceless works of art. Your final day in St. Petersburg finds you with an appropriately imperial excursion: a guided tour through the world-famous Hermitage Museum. It is the crown jewel of the city and is located in the former home of the tsars, the Winter Palace.

A special Captain's Farewell Reception and Dinner will be prepared for you this evening.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Farewell Dinner

Day 12: St. Petersburg (Disembark)

Disembark, and transfer to the airport

Meals: Breakfast

Price Include

11 night accommodation including meals as per program, transfers and excursions as listed in the program

Price Exclude

Airline ticket
Port charges
Visa fees
Travel insurance
Tips & gratuities

Starting price per person in \$US

Category	Price
Classic	6,999
Deluxe Balcony	9,399
Suite	11,099
Grand Suite	11,899
Royal Suite	12,399

This is a product sheet elaborated in order to give you a quick overview of our package with details pertaining to cruises, hotels, flights and proposed tours. This is not a tailor made quotation and should you wish to have specific details reviewed to better suits your need please do not hesitate to contact one of our travel consultants or visit one of our branches.

CODE: RU-SUM19-UNIWORLD- IMPERIAL WATERWAYS OF RUSSIA

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