

Cruise the Passage of

Peter the Great

aboard the
MS Repin

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

- **Three nights** in **Moscow** aboard the **MS Repin**.
- **Cruise for six nights**, visiting the jewels of Russia's Golden Ring. You'll be raised and lowered through a series of locks as you sail on the **Volga, Svir and Neva** rivers. Then, cruise on **Lake Onega** and **Lake Ladoga**.
- Relax aboard the **MS Repin**, with **three nights** to discover **St Petersburg**.

Activities and Events

- **All guided shore excursions** as outlined in your program itinerary.
- Enjoy a **cultural performance** at the Hermitage Theater, one of the oldest in Russia.
- A talk with a cosmonaut and exclusive tour in the **Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center**.
- Attend **Welcome and Farewell Receptions** onboard.

Meals

- Enjoy 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches and 12 dinners **during your program**, featuring international cuisine and regional specialties with European hospitality and service.

MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an **experienced AHI Travel Director** throughout the trip.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in your planning.
- **Tipping** of all guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel wallet.

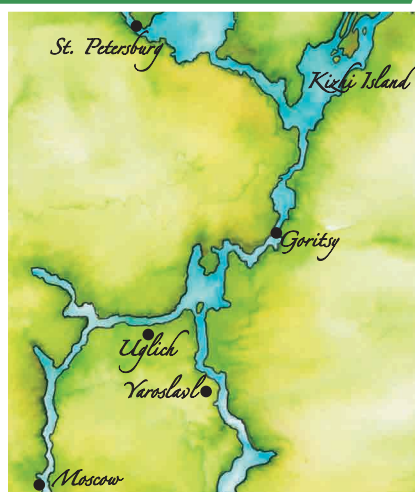
featuring
MOSCOW
UGLICH
YAROSLAVL
GORITSY
KIZHI ISLAND AND
ST. PETERSBURG

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Unpack just once!** Relax aboard the **MS Repin** as you cruise through the **serene Russian countryside**, between **Moscow** and **St. Petersburg**.
- Fully explore Moscow with specially arranged visits to the **Kremlin** and **Red Square**.
- Tour the **Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center** in Star City, and talk about Russia's space program with a cosmonaut.
- Enjoy early entrance into St. Petersburg's **State Hermitage Museum** before it opens to the public.
- Attend a **cultural performance** at the Hermitage Theater in St. Petersburg.
- Participate in **exciting seminars led by local experts** who will enhance your understanding of Mother Russia.

In the early 1700s, Peter the Great pursued his vision of transforming Russia into the greatest nation in Europe at the time. Follow in his footsteps as you cruise aboard the MS Repin. Trace scenic waterways lined with medieval villages and the charming wooden dachas, or country houses, of national heroes. In Moscow, admire the Kremlin and stroll the bustling Red Square. Delight in St. Petersburg's beauty, from the State Hermitage Museum, once the Winter Palace of the czars, to fortresses and avenues. Don't miss this chance to experience the "new" Russia firsthand.

Above: The Church of Our Savior on the Spilled Blood, St. Petersburg



AIR PROGRAM

- Round-trip, scheduled jet service.
- Round-trip motorcoach transfers between airports and the MS Repin, with baggage handling at the ship.
- All domestic and foreign governmental airport/departure taxes and fees.
- Automatic \$250,000 Flight Insurance for all passengers ticketed by AHI Travel, subject to policy terms.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ DEPARTURE

Depart for **Moscow, Russia**, aboard scheduled jet service. (*Provided for Air Program participants only.*)

DAY 2 ~ MOSCOW

Arrive at Moscow airport and transfer by motorcoach to the **MS Repin**. (*Transfer provided for Air Program participants only.*)

DAY 3 ~ MOSCOW

Excursion: Red Square and Star City. See Red Square and St. Basil's Cathedral, considered to be the symbol of Russia. After free time, visit Star City for lunch and a tour of the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center.

DAY 4 ~ MOSCOW

Excursion: Kremlin and State Tretyakov Gallery. Visit the Kremlin, the seat of Russia's government. See the State Tretyakov Gallery, housing some of the finest Russian art in the world.

DAY 5 ~ MOSCOW/CRUISING

Independent Exploration: This morning, enjoy free time then depart Moscow and sail along the Volga River.

Local Flavor: Tonight, attend a *Welcome Reception* aboard ship.

DAY 6 ~ UGLICH

Excursion: Uglich. Enjoy the tranquil scenery of the Volga River as you cruise towards Uglich. During a walking tour, see the grounds of the Old Kremlin; the Church of St. Dimitry on the Blood; and the 18th-century Transfiguration Cathedral.

DAY 7 ~ YAROSLAVL

Excursion: Yaroslavl. Visit the Monastery of the Transfiguration of the Savior. Founded in the 12th century, it is one of Russia's oldest monasteries on the upper Volga River. Continue on to the spectacular onion-domed Church of Elijah the Prophet, known for its excellent frescoes.

DAY 8 ~ GORITSY

Excursion: Goritsy. This ancient Russian village was formerly closed to western visitors. Now, discover its treasures, such as the Kirill-Belosersk Monastery. Then, enjoy guided visits to a local food market and private home.

DAY 9 ~ KIZHI ISLAND

Excursion: Kizhi Island. The island of Kizhi on Lake Onega is an outdoor museum of 18th-century wooden architecture. The familiar onion-

shaped domes of its churches were constructed without nails, and are a tribute to the skill of Russian craftsmen. The Church of the Transformation, with 22 onion domes, is considered one of Russia's most architecturally splendid churches.

DAY 10 ~ MANDROGI

During a relaxing day of sailing, appreciate the beauty of the Neva and Svir Rivers and Lakes Ladoga and Onega.

Excursion: Mandrogi. At midday, stop in Mandrogi, a small village that offers a close-up view of wooden *dachas* and enjoy a barbeque lunch.

DAY 11 ~ ST. PETERSBURG

Excursion: St. Petersburg City Tour. Upon arrival in St. Petersburg, take a tour featuring St. Isaac's Cathedral and the *The Bronze Horseman* statue. Become acquainted with historic places which have made St. Petersburg such a dazzling capital. This evening, enjoy a performance at the Hermitage Theater.

DAY 12 ~ ST. PETERSBURG

Excursion: Opulent Palaces. Visit Petrodvorets this morning. The palace of Peter the Great is known for its gardens and fountains. Continue to Catherine's Palace, a Russian baroque masterpiece, to see the famed Amber room full of intricate amber panels.

DAY 13 ~ ST. PETERSBURG

Excursion: The Hermitage. Visit the State Hermitage Museum. A part of the Winter Palace built largely by Catherine the Great, it is home to one of the world's most extensive collections of art.

Independent Exploration: The afternoon in St. Petersburg is at leisure for plans of your own design. Tonight, enjoy a *Farewell Reception*.

DAY 14 ~ RETURN

After breakfast, transfer to St. Petersburg airport for return flight(s) to North America. (*Provided for Air Program participants only.*)

NOTE: This cruise may operate in the opposite direction. Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Many excursions on this program involve an element of walking as some of the finest attractions on this program are located in areas not accessible by motorcoach.

ACCOMMODATIONS



MS REPIN

The *MS Repin* features all of the amenities needed to make your visit to Russia relaxing and comfortable. It delivers a much more intimate traveling experience than the larger ships that have traditionally sailed this route. Tastefully furnished cabins are air conditioned and all face outside, affording excellent views of the passing countryside. In the dining room—spacious enough to serve all guests in one sitting—you will be treated to Russian specialties, including dishes from various regions throughout the country. Shipboard entertainment and Captain's receptions complete the picture, and serve to make your cruise most memorable.

EXCLUSIVE CRUISE EXTRAS

This AHI Cruise features:

- Deluxe river cruise ships providing all outward-facing accommodations and friendly, personalized service.
- Pleasant dining aboard ship, featuring special extras such as morning coffee, afternoon tea, international cuisine and expertly prepared regional specialties.
- Expert local guides leading thoughtfully designed excursions to enrich your experience of the area.
- A comprehensive, illustrated guide book created exclusively for your program describing, kilometer-by-kilometer, the storied culture and history of the towns, villages and landmarks along the river.
- Speaker's Corner program featuring local lecturers who share their insights with you for a unique, in-depth learning experience.



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