

WORLD ART TOURS 2017

St Basil's Cathedral, Moscow © Kishjar/Flickr

# Russian Winter Wonderland

ART AND MUSIC IN MOSCOW AND ST PETERSBURG

with Kenneth Park  
04–16 January 2017 (13 days)



**R**  
Renaissance  
Tours

# Russian Winter Wonderland

## ART AND MUSIC IN MOSCOW AND ST PETERSBURG



### TOUR LEADER

**Kenneth Park** works as a fundraiser, lecturer, curator, tour leader and presenter. As Curator of Collections at Wesley College Melbourne, Kenneth manages the school's extensive art and archival collections.

An inveterate traveller making at least ten overseas trips a year, he lives by the motto – 'Life is a grand tour so make the most of it'. Kenneth's tertiary studies include political science, administration, museum studies, industrial relations, fine arts, history and international relations. Kenneth has a passion for travel, food, wine, arts, architecture, history and good conversation...essentially the good life.

Experience the magic of Russia in the winter, witness a Russian Orthodox Christmas and discover the extraordinary cultural richness of Moscow and St Petersburg.

Thanks to the grandeur of its imperial past, Russia has an abundance of museums, palaces and theatres. With comprehensive stays in the dynamic political and economic capital of Moscow and the grand Tsarist capital of St Petersburg, you will discover it all – without the summer crowds.

By day immerse yourself in the magnificent art, architecture and palaces and join the celebrations of Russian Orthodox Christmas (6/7 January). In the evening, enjoy a feast of opera, ballet and concerts at legendary venues such as the Bolshoi and Mariinsky Theatres.

### At a glance...

- Stay in five-star hotels in the heart of Moscow and St Petersburg
- Enjoy leisurely visits to the Armoury, Tretyakov and Pushkin Museums (Moscow) and the Hermitage and Russian Museums (St Petersburg)
- Journey out of St Petersburg to the Catherine's Palace
- Pack your winter finery for five evenings at the theatre including opera, ballet and concerts, plus optional performances



**Tue 03 Jan 2017**

**Depart Australia**

Suggested departure from Australia on Emirates / Qantas flights (via Dubai). Overnight in flight.

**Wed 04 Jan**

**Arrive Moscow**

Mid-afternoon arrival in Moscow and transfer to your hotel.

This evening join Kenneth and fellow travellers for a welcome briefing and dinner. **D**

**Thu 05 Jan**

**Moscow**

Depart the hotel for a morning tour of Moscow. Visit the tranquil enclosure of the beautiful Novodevichy Convent and the nearby Novodevichy Cemetery where many famous Russian political and cultural figures are buried, and enjoy a panoramic view of Moscow from the Sparrow Hills.

Mid-afternoon return to the hotel after lunch at a local restaurant. This evening enjoy a performance (opera or ballet) at the famous Bolshoi Theatre (performance details announced 3-4 months prior).

**B L**

**Fri 06 Jan**

**Moscow**

Following a talk on the museums of Moscow and the Russian Orthodox religion, join a walking tour of Red Square, surrounded on four sides by the Kremlin, St Basil's Cathedral, GUM Department store and the State History Museum. Finish with a visit to the latter which houses a fascinating collection covering the whole Russian empire from the time of the Stone Age.

After lunch at a local restaurant, visit the famous Kremlin with its many treasures including the sumptuous interior of the Cathedral of the Assumption, the more intimate Cathedral of the Annunciation and the Bell Tower of Ivan the Great. Finish with a visit to the Armoury Museum with its collection of Fabergé eggs and an astonishing array of glittering jewels, robes, thrones and carriages – a telling reminder of the pre-revolutionary opulence of the Romanov Dynasty.

This evening, attend a Russian Orthodox Christmas Eve service followed by dinner at a local restaurant. **B L D**

**Russian Orthodox Christmas** is celebrated two weeks later the Western Christmas as the Russian Orthodox Church uses the old 'Julian' calendar for religious celebration days. On Christmas Eve (6 January), there are several long services, including the Royal Hours and Vespers combined with the Divine Liturgy. Russians then return home for the traditional Christmas Eve 'Holy Supper', which consists of 12 dishes, one to honour each of the Twelve Apostles. Devout followers then return to church for the 'All Night Vigil' and again on Christmas Morning, for the 'Divine Liturgy of the Nativity'. Since 1992 Christmas has become a national holiday in Russia, as part of the ten-day holiday season at the start of every New Year.

**Sat 07 Jan**

**Moscow**

This morning attend a Christmas morning service followed by a visit to the Old Tretyakov Gallery, a comprehensive collection devoted to the history of Russian art, ranging from precious medieval icons to the Russian School of the late 19th century.

In the afternoon, take a ride on the Moscow's highly efficient Metro System. The Metro stations themselves, Stalin's so-called 'Palaces of the People', are surprising gems of art, architecture and design. **B**

**Sun 08 Jan**

**Moscow**

Spend this morning at the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, with an impressive collection of Western Art, particularly its substantial holdings of luminous Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings.

Tonight, enjoy a concert at either the Moscow Conservatory, House of Music or Tchaikovsky Hall (performance details announced 3-4 months prior). **B**



*The Sleeping Beauty at the Bolshoi. Photo by Damir Yusupov/Bolshoi Theatre.*



*Gilded domes of the Cathedral of the Annunciation by Petar Milošević/CC*



### Mon 09 Jan

### Moscow – St Petersburg

Morning checkout and transfer to the station for departure on the high-speed train 'Sapsan' to St Petersburg (travel time 4 hours). On arrival in St Petersburg transfer to your hotel.

Tonight join Kenneth for a talk on the history of St Petersburg followed by dinner. **B D**

### Tue 10 Jan

### St Petersburg

Enjoy a full day introduction to this magnificent city, first planned by Peter the Great and later embellished by the Tsars as a great European capital.

Begin with a visit to the Peter and Paul Fortress, built by Peter the Great in 1703 to defend Russia from Swedish attack. Visit the impressive Peter and Paul Cathedral, the burial place of all the Russian Emperors and Empresses from Peter the Great to Nicholas II. Continue to St Isaac's Cathedral, the largest Russian Orthodox cathedral in the city.

After lunch, visit the lavishly decorated Yusupov Palace, once the primary residence in St. Petersburg of the immensely wealthy Yusupov family. The palace was the site of Rasputin's murder in 1916. **B L**

### Wed 11 Jan

### St Petersburg

Following a talk on the museums of St Petersburg, join Hermitage Curator Alexei Leporc for a guided visit of the main branch of the State Hermitage Museum housed in the Winter Palace, the former principal residence of the Romanov Tsars.

Following a guided introduction to the magnificent building and the highlights of the collection, the rest of the day is free to continue your own exploration of the museum.

This evening attend the first of two included performances at the Mariinsky Theatre complex, comprising the historic theatre (1860) a modern concert hall (2006) and the Mariinsky II theatre, opened in 2013 (performance details announced 2-3 months prior). **B**

### Thu 12 Jan

### St Petersburg

Today, visit the Church of Our Saviour on the Spilled Blood (Resurrection of Christ Church), erected between 1883 and 1907 on the site where Emperor Alexander II was assassinated in 1881. Built in the flamboyant Russian Revival style, both the interior and exterior of the church are richly decorated with colourful mosaics, designed and created by the most prominent Russian artists of the day.

Continue to the Russian Museum, housed in the Mikhailovsky Palace, built between 1819 and 1825 for Grand Duke Mikhail, the brother of Alexander I and Nicholas I. Established in 1895 under the decree of the Emperor Nicholas II and opened in 1898, the Russian Museum is today the world's largest collection of Russian fine arts from the 10th to the 20th centuries. It is also a famous restoration centre and one of Russia's major cultural, educational and research centres.

Following a guided introduction to the highlights of the collection, the rest of the day is free to continue your own exploration of the museum. **B**

### Fri 13 Jan

### St Petersburg

This morning, in the company of Hermitage Curator Alexei Leporc, visit the newly opened second wing of the State Hermitage Museum, located in the former Imperial General staff Building.

Afternoon at leisure before attending a concert at the St Petersburg Philharmonia, home of the St Petersburg Philharmonic and Symphony orchestras (performance details announced 2-3 months prior). **B**

### Sat 14 Jan

### St Petersburg

Following a morning talk, pay a visit to the Fabergé Museum at the Shuvalov Palace, one of the newest museums in St. Petersburg. The museum houses the world's largest collection of Fabergé eggs along with a galaxy of other items made by Fabergé and his contemporaries.



Mayakovskaya Metro Station by Szabolcs Vörös/WikimediaCC



Valery Gergiev. Artistic Director, Mariinsky Theatre. Photo Alexander Shapunov

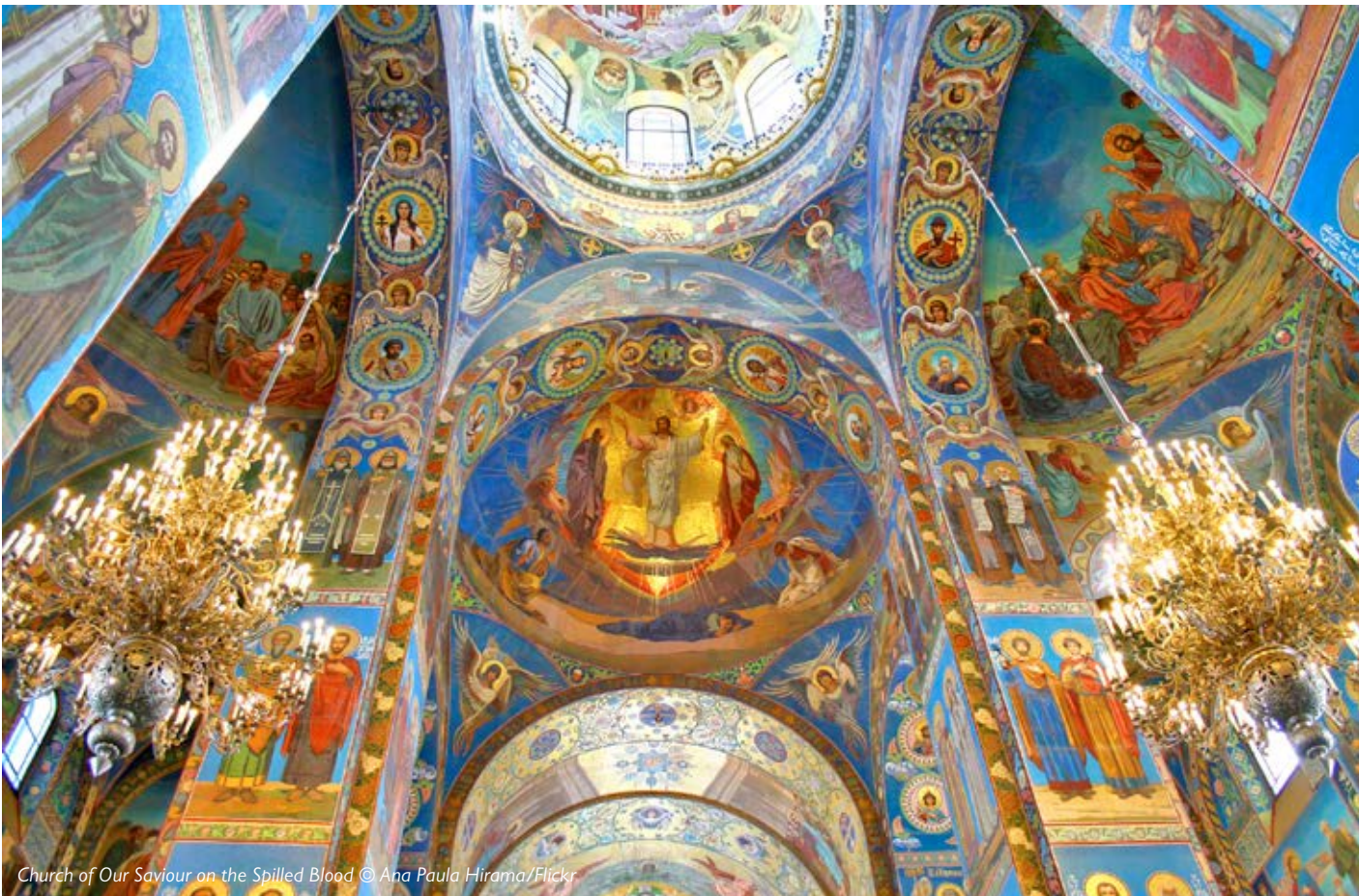




Christmas comes to The Winter Palace © Verity Cridland/Flickr



State Hermitage Museum © Harvey Barrison/Flickr



Church of Our Saviour on the Spilled Blood © Ana Paula Hirama/Flickr



Rosebud Fabergé egg 1895 Fabergé Museum via Wikimedia Commons



Don Carlo at the Bolshoi. Photo by Damir Yusupov/Bolshoi Theatre.



Afternoon at leisure to wander along bustling Nevsky Prospekt, the 'Champs des Elysees' of St Petersburg, or explore the quieter, canal-lined streets to each side.

This evening return attend the second of two included performances at the Mariinsky Theatre complex (performance details announced 2-3 months prior). **B**

### Sun 15 Jan

### St Petersburg

Drive out of St Petersburg to the town of Pushkin, formerly known as 'Tsar's Village' (Tsarkoye Selo), renowned for its remarkable ensemble of palaces and parks. It is particularly famous for its impressive Baroque Catherine Palace, where Empress Catherine the Great lived and died.

After a troika ride through the snow-filled landscapes celebrate the conclusion of the tour with a special farewell lunch at a traditional Russian restaurant in the countryside.

Late afternoon return to St Petersburg, stopping to pay a visit to the powerful and impressive Monument to the Heroic Defenders of Leningrad, commemorating the heroic efforts of the residents of Leningrad and the soldiers on the Leningrad Front to the repel the Nazis in the 900-day Siege of Leningrad during World War II.

**B L**

### Mon 16 Jan

### Depart St Petersburg

After a morning at leisure, tour arrangements conclude with a transfer to St Petersburg Airport for suggested departure on Emirates / Qantas flights (via Dubai).

Arrival in Australia on the evening of Tuesday 17 January (or the morning of Wed 18 January). **B**



Russian Troika by Lena WikimediaCC

## Tour prices

Per person, twin-share	AUD 8,750
Single supplement*	AUD 1,050
Deposit per person	AUD 500
Final payment due	04 November 2016

\*Single travellers may request to share. Please advise at time of booking.

### Tour code

AG1701

### Fitness level

Moderate

Please see booking conditions for fitness level definitions.

### Suggested airline

Emirates / Qantas

Please contact Renaissance Tours for current airfares and flight reservations.

### Visas

Australian and New Zealand passport holders require a visa for Russia. The visa will be obtained by Renaissance Tours and is included in the tour price.

### Tour price includes

- Accommodation in a centrally located five-star superior hotels with daily breakfast (**B**)
- Meals as per itinerary (**L** = Lunch, **D** = Dinner). Wines with meals
- A-reserve tickets (or best available) for 5 performances
- Historical and cultural talks with Kenneth Park
- Sightseeing, including entrance fees as per itinerary, in comfortable air-conditioned coaches
- Business class train Moscow – St Petersburg
- Transfers on arrival and departure
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Hotel portorage (one piece per person)

### Tour price does not include

- International airfares
- Items of a personal nature, including telephone, laundry, room service etc.
- Travel insurance
- Airport portorage

### Your hotels★★★★★

Moscow – Metropol Hotel

St Petersburg – Astoria Hotel

NB. Hotels of a similar standard may be substituted

# Terms & Conditions

## HOW TO BOOK

Complete, sign and return the Booking Form available from Renaissance Tours with your deposit and page one of your passport.

## DEPOSIT / FINAL PAYMENTS

Your deposit is due at the time of booking and is used to pay hotel, airline, performance tickets and/or other deposits. It is non-refundable in the event of your cancellation.

Final payment is due 60 days before departure. Failure to make the final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit.

Payment by cash, cheque, direct deposit, American Express, MasterCard and Visa is accepted. 1.5% service charge applies to payment made by MasterCard and Visa. 3% service charge applies to payment made by American Express.

Payments for some international airfares can be made by credit card without a service fee. Please check for details.

## CANCELLATION & REFUNDS

**a) Cancellation by You** – Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to cancellation fees for tours operated by Renaissance Tours as shown below, airlines, hotels and other third parties may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

60 days or more	Forfeit of deposit
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above, cancellation charges may apply for additional arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours, such as air tickets, hotels and travel insurance premium. If the reason for cancellation is covered by the insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

**b) Cancellation by Us** – We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for

force majeure, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure. No further compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability.

Cancellation and/or amendment fees may apply for additional travel arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours.

## PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

All travellers must be in possession of a valid passport – most countries require a 6-month validity from your date of entry or exit. For some countries (e.g. China, Vietnam, India, Russia), visas are included in the tour cost and will be arranged by Renaissance Tours prior to travel. For other countries, it is your responsibility to ensure you have the appropriate visa(s).

You are also responsible for obtaining all necessary inoculations and preventative medicines as may be required for the duration of the tour.

## TOUR PRICES

Prices quoted in our tour information are based on exchange rates, cost of services and applicable taxes at the time of publication. Prices may be subject to change in the event of significant currency fluctuations or the introduction of new taxes, up until final payment is received.

In the event of a price increase, whether because of a currency fluctuation, increase in taxes or a correction in advertised prices, we will advise you and you have the option of accepting the amended prices, inclusions and booking conditions or withdrawing from the tour and receiving a full refund of all monies paid.

Once final payment is received, all prices will be guaranteed and no surcharges will apply.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a condition of travel that you are covered by comprehensive travel insurance for international tours. Your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours.

## FITNESS AND PARTICIPATION

Most of our tours require a MODERATE level of fitness.

However, in certain destinations (e.g. Silk Road, Central Asia, Outback Australia, tropical destinations) or in certain seasons (e.g. mid-winter, mid-summer) or because of the nature of travel (e.g. remote rail), certain tours will require an ABOVE AVERAGE or CHALLENGING level of fitness.

If you (or we) have any doubts about your level of fitness, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require your doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour, including the fitness level, and provide you (and us) with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

## MODERATE

For the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

- negotiate airports and railway stations without wheelchair assistance
- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tour of 1–2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage

## ABOVE AVERAGE

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

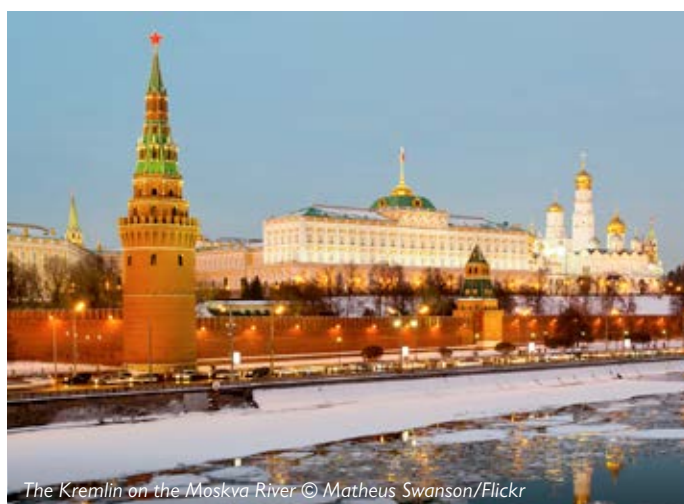
- undertake walking tours of 2–3 hours
- climb staircases of 100 or more steps

## CHALLENGING

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- handle extremes of temperature (e.g. below 0 or above 35 degrees)
- handle extremes of altitudes (e.g. 4000 metres and above).

You can find the full terms & conditions at [www.renaissance-tours.com.au/booking-conditions](http://www.renaissance-tours.com.au/booking-conditions) or we would be happy to post you a copy on request.

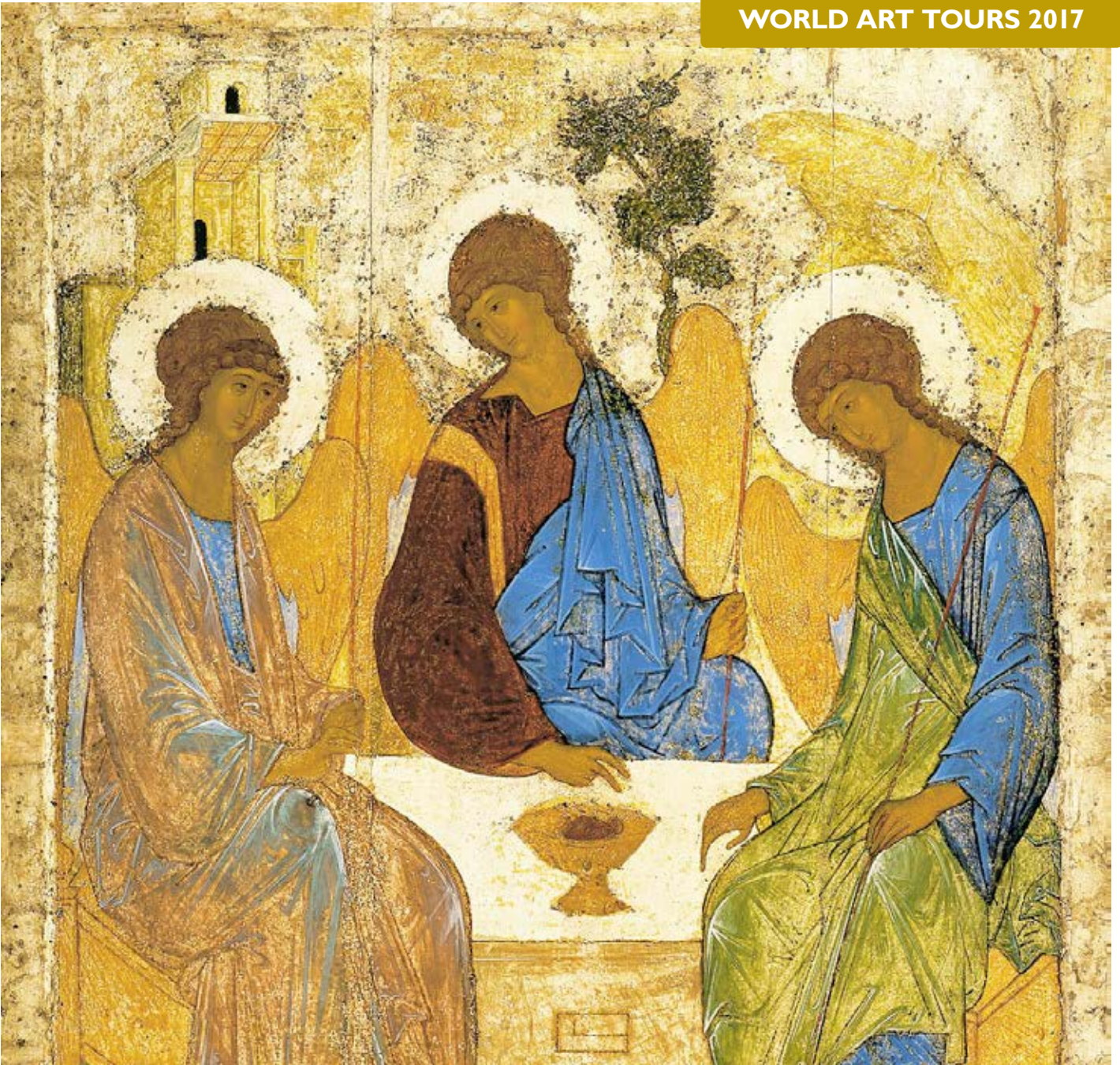


The Kremlin on the Moskva River © Matheus Swanson/Flickr



Christmas lights at Moscow's Manezhnaya Square Syuqor77/Flickr





Andrei Rublev 'Trinity' 15th Century (detail). Moscow, Russia, The State Tretyakov Gallery [Public Domain] Wikimedia Commons



Renaissance  
Tours

1300 727 095 (AU)

0800 403 621 (NZ)

call (+61 2) 9299 5801

fax (+61 2) 9299 5805

email [info@renaissancetours.com.au](mailto:info@renaissancetours.com.au)

visit [www.renaissancetours.com.au](http://www.renaissancetours.com.au)

Level 4, 47 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001

ABN 14 069 591 448

Travel agent



# Booking form

Page 1 of 3



Renaissance  
Tours

www.renaissancecettours.com.au

Please return pages 1 and 2 to:

GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia or [info@renaissancecettours.com.au](mailto:info@renaissancecettours.com.au)

Toll free AU 1300 727 095 or NZ 0800 403 621 | Tel: +61 2 9299 5801 | Fax: +61 2 9299 5805

- Please complete, sign and return this Booking Form, along with a copy of page one of your passport (international tours only and deposit. NOTE: Flight bookings cannot proceed without passport copy. This is an airline security requirement.
- Complete credit card authority (if paying by credit card) OR forward a (deposit) cheque (made payable to Renaissance Tours).
- Upon receipt of your Booking Form and deposit, you will receive confirmation of your place on the tour(s) from Renaissance Tours.

Tour name

Tour code

## Personal details – Passenger 1

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr or Other)

Hon

Family name (as in passport)

Given names (as in passport)

Preferred name

DOB

Email

Mobile

Phone

Address

State

Postcode

Country

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS / ALLERGIES

☐ Yes

☐ No

## MEDICAL DECLARATION

What medical conditions do you currently have and/or have you received treatment for in the past three years? (e.g. stroke, heart, respiratory and psychiatric conditions). **Attach extra pages, if necessary.**

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist Renaissance Tours in determining the suitability of a tour participant for a particular tour. The information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

## FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE DECLARATION (Please tick)

I have read, understood and confirm that I meet the:

☐ MODERATE

☐ ABOVE AVERAGE

☐ CHALLENGING

fitness level to participate on this tour.

## Booking conditions

- ☐ I have read, understood and accept the **Booking Conditions** on page 3. I have enclosed the deposit and understand that the balance of the tour cost must be paid at least 60 days prior to departure (45 days prior for domestic tours) or my reservation may be cancelled.

Sign here

## Personal details – Passenger 2

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr or Other)

Hon

Family name (as in passport)

Given names (as in passport)

Preferred name

DOB

Email

Mobile

Phone

Address

State

Postcode

Country

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS / ALLERGIES

☐ Yes

☐ No

## MEDICAL DECLARATION

What medical conditions do you currently have and/or have you received treatment for in the past three years? (e.g. stroke, heart, respiratory and psychiatric conditions). **Attach extra pages, if necessary.**

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist Renaissance Tours in determining the suitability of a tour participant for a particular tour. The information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

## FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE DECLARATION (Please tick)

I have read, understood and confirm that I meet the:

☐ MODERATE

☐ ABOVE AVERAGE

☐ CHALLENGING

fitness level to participate on this tour.

## Booking conditions

- ☐ I have read, understood and accept the **Booking Conditions** on page 3. I have enclosed the deposit and understand that the balance of the tour cost must be paid at least 60 days prior to departure (45 days prior for domestic tours) or my reservation may be cancelled.

Sign here

# Booking form

Page 2 of 3

## Travel details – Passenger 1

### AIRFARE – WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE A QUOTE FROM US?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Economy ☐ Premium Economy ☐ Business Class ☐ First Class

### CITY OF DEPARTURE

☐ Sydney ☐ Melbourne ☐ Brisbane ☐ Perth ☐ Other

### FREQUENT FLYER NUMBER

### AIRLINE SEAT PREFERENCE

### ACCOMMODATION

☐ Double ☐ Twin ☐ Single ☐ If single, would you like us to arrange twin-share?

### TRAVEL INSURANCE – WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A BROCHURE?

☐ Yes ☐ No

### PRE/POST TOUR ARRANGEMENTS

Please advise if you would like Renaissance Tours to organise any pre/post tour arrangements (e.g. earlier departure, later return, additional accommodation/flights, etc)

### NEXT OF KIN (Emergency contact only)

Name

Relationship

Daytime contact ( )

After hours contact

### HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS TOUR?

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER? ☐ Yes ☐ No

## Travel details – Passenger 2 (only fill if different from Pax 1)

### AIRFARE – WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE A QUOTE FROM US?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Economy ☐ Premium Economy ☐ Business Class ☐ First Class

### CITY OF DEPARTURE

☐ Sydney ☐ Melbourne ☐ Brisbane ☐ Perth ☐ Other

### FREQUENT FLYER NUMBER

### AIRLINE SEAT PREFERENCE

### ACCOMMODATION

☐ Double ☐ Twin ☐ Single ☐ If single, would you like us to arrange twin-share?

### TRAVEL INSURANCE – WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A BROCHURE?

☐ Yes ☐ No

### PRE/POST TOUR ARRANGEMENTS

Please advise if you would like Renaissance Tours to organise any pre/post tour arrangements (e.g. earlier departure, later return, additional accommodation/flights, etc)

### NEXT OF KIN (Emergency contact only)

Name

Relationship

Daytime contact ( )

After hours contact

### HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS TOUR?

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER? ☐ Yes ☐ No

## Payment

Payment by cash, cheque, direct deposit, American Express, MasterCard and Visa is accepted. 1.5% service charge applies to payment made by MasterCard and Visa. 3% service charge applies to payment made by American Express. Payments for some international airfares can be made by credit card without a service fee. Please check for details.

AMOUNT  ☐ CREDIT CARD ☐ CHEQUE ☐ CASH ☐ EFT

### CREDIT CARD AUTHORITY

Cardholder's name

☐ American Express ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Cardholder's number

### SIGN

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Account name: Renaissance Tours

BSB: 062-032 / Account: 2800 4163

Swift code: CTBAAU2S (use for transfers from overseas)

Expiry (month/year)

### DATE

Travel agent



# Booking form

Page 3 of 3

## FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE

Most of our tours require a **MODERATE** level of fitness.

However, in certain destinations (e.g. Silk Road, Central Asia, Outback Australia, tropical destinations) or in certain seasons (e.g. mid-winter, mid-summer) or because of the nature of travel (eg. remote rail), certain tours will require an **ABOVE AVERAGE** or **CHALLENGING** level of fitness.

If you (or we) have any doubts about your level of fitness, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require your doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour, including the fitness level, and provide you (and us) with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

### MODERATE

for the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

- negotiate airports and railway stations without wheelchair assistance
- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tour of 1–2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage

### ABOVE AVERAGE

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- Undertake walking tours of 2–3 hours
- climb staircases of 100 or more steps

### CHALLENGING

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- Handle extremes of temperature (e.g. below 0 or above 35 degrees)
- handle extremes of altitudes (e.g. 4000 m and above).

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is highly recommended that you are covered by travel insurance for domestic tours.

However, it is a condition of travel that you are covered by comprehensive travel insurance for international tours. You can make your own arrangements or your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours. In either case all participants must provide the following information no later than 60 days prior to commencement of travel:

- a copy of your travel insurance policy (or details of master policy)
- the emergency telephone number of your insurance company
- next of kin emergency contact.



**Renaissance**  
Tours

toll free 1300 727 095 (AU)  
toll free 0800 403 621 (NZ)  
call (02) 9299 5801  
fax (02) 9299 5805  
email [info@renaissancetours.com.au](mailto:info@renaissancetours.com.au)  
visit [www.renaissancetours.com.au](http://www.renaissancetours.com.au)

Level 4, 47 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001  
ABN 14 069 591 448

## 1. TOUR PRICES

Prices quoted in our tour information are based on exchange rates, cost of services and applicable taxes at the time of publication. Prices may be subject to change in the event of significant currency fluctuations or the introduction of new taxes, up until final payment is received. In the event of a price increase, whether because of a currency fluctuation, increase in taxes or a correction in advertised prices, we will advise you and you have the option of accepting the amended prices, inclusions and booking conditions or withdrawing from the tour and receiving a full refund of all monies paid. Once final payment is received, all prices (excluding air taxes) will be guaranteed and no surcharges will apply.

## 2. PAYMENT

Your final payment is due 60 days before departure (45 days prior for domestic tours). Failure to make your final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit. We reserve the right to charge a late payment fee in the event of late booking and/or payment to cover additional communication and other expenses.

## 3. FLIGHT BOOKINGS AND FARES

Renaissance Tours will use its best endeavours to ensure that all flight prices are correct at the time that they are quoted. However, once a deposit is paid on an air fare, it guarantees that a booking is being held for you, it does not guarantee the fare and applicable taxes.

The fare and taxes can only be guaranteed when the flight booking has been paid in full and a ticket has been issued. Flight bookings cannot be transferred.

## 4. CHANGES

a) Changes by You – Because of additional communication and other expenses, we reserve the right to charge an appropriate administration fee per amendment to your original booking. While every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate changes and additional requests their availability cannot be guaranteed.

b) Changes by Us – While we will use our best endeavours to operate all tours as advertised, by entering into this contract the Client accepts that it may prove necessary or advisable to vary or modify a tour or its contents due to prevailing local conditions. We reserve the right at any time to cancel or change any of the facilities, services or prices described in the brochure (including flights, transport, accommodation or other arrangements) and to substitute alternative arrangements of comparable monetary value without compensation.

If a service or facility becomes unavailable due to circumstances beyond our control ('force majeure') and no alternative arrangement of comparable monetary value is available, we will substitute the best alternative available and will refund the Client for any cost saving or charge the Client for any additional costs incurred. 'Force majeure' includes any event which Renaissance Tours or its suppliers could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid (e.g. advice against travel from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), war, threat of war, riot, civil strife, industrial dispute, epidemics, health risks, terrorist activity, natural or nuclear disaster, fire or adverse weather conditions, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes imposed by cancellation or rescheduling of flights by an airline or main charterer, the alteration of airline or aircraft type). Renaissance Tours is not liable for any penalty charges associated with 'supersaver' type connecting rail or air fares, in the event of a change to a holiday departure time, date or airport.

## 5. SUBSTITUTION OF CLIENT

If any member of the party is prevented from travelling because of the death, injury or serious illness of the passenger, close relative or friend, redundancy or jury service, it may be possible to transfer the booking to another suitable person (acceptable to Renaissance Tours) provided that written notice is given at least one calendar month prior to departure. An administration fee of \$100 + GST per person will be levied plus any costs imposed by our suppliers. Airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

## 6. CANCELLATION

a) Cancellation by You – Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to the charges shown below airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

### International Tours

	Forfeit of deposit*
60 days or more	
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

### Domestic Tours

	Forfeit of deposit*
45 days or more	
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

\* Includes any flight deposit paid.

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above cancellation charges, the full insurance premium together with any existing administration fees is also payable in the event of a cancellation by the Client. If the reason for cancellation is covered by the insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

b) Cancellation by Us – We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for *force majeure* (as outlined in clause 4b) or the Client's failure to pay the final balance, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure for international tours and 45 days before departure for domestic tours. Unless the Client fails to pay the final balance, we will return all monies paid, excluding payment for travel insurance and administration fees. No compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability. Airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

## 7. PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

It is your responsibility to be in possession of a passport valid for 6 months after the date of your return to Australia. You are also responsible for obtaining all necessary visas, inoculations and preventative medicines as may be required for the duration of the tour. Information about these matters or related items is given in good faith but without responsibility on the part of Renaissance Tours.

## 8. ILLNESS OR DISABILITY

Anyone suffering from illness or disability or undergoing treatment for any physical or medical condition must declare the true nature of such condition at the time of booking and make arrangements for the provision of any medication or other treatment which may be required during the tour. Failure to make such disclosure will constitute a breach of these booking conditions and result in such persons being excluded from the tour in which case all monies paid will be forfeit.

## 9. LOCAL LAWS

All participants of the tours we operate are expected to obey the laws and regulations of the countries visited and any failure to do so will relieve Renaissance Tours of all obligations that they may otherwise have under these booking conditions.

## 10. IF YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT

If you have a complaint about any of the tour arrangements, you must bring it to the attention of the tour leader or other representative of Renaissance Tours at the time so that they may use their best endeavours to rectify the situation. It is only if we are made aware of any problems that there will be the opportunity to put things right. Any complaints must be made in writing to Renaissance Tours within 28 days of the completion of the tour.

## 11. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

All bookings are accepted on the understanding that the Client appreciates that travel does involve some risk and that they undertake all tours of their own volition.

i) Renaissance Tours accepts liability should any part of the tour arrangements booked with us not be supplied as described in the brochure(s) and not be of reasonable standard. In such a case, we will pay reasonable compensation if the Client's enjoyment of the tour has been adversely affected but will pay no compensation if there has been no fault on the part of Renaissance Tours or our suppliers and the reason for the failure in the tour arrangements was the Client's fault, the actions of someone unconnected with the tour arrangements or could not have been foreseen or avoided by Renaissance Tours or its suppliers even if all due care had been exercised.

ii) Our acceptance of liability to pay compensation pursuant to clause 11(i) is limited, in the case of air travel, rail travel, sea travel or hotel accommodation, to the amount set out in the provisions of, respectively, the Warsaw Convention as amended by the Hague Protocol 1955, the 1961 Berne Convention, the 1974 Athens Convention and the 1962 Paris Convention.

iii) Our acceptance of liability in clauses 11(i) and 11(ii) above is subject to assignment by the Client to Renaissance Tours of the Client's rights against any agent, supplier or sub-contractor of Renaissance Tours which is in any way responsible for the unsatisfactory tour arrangements.