Russia is the largest country on the planet and has many wonderful and diverse areas worth visiting. Russia spreads in two continents, Europe and Asia. Moscow, the capital city of Russia falls entirely in Europe. This is the richest part of the country and is the most loved and visited part by tourists as well. Another major travel destination in Russia is St. Petersburg located in north-western Region, where you will find beautiful landscapes and large lakes.
Travel to Russia is best in the summertime unless you are adventurous and love to see the city covered in snow. Siberia connects to the rest of Asia. Trans Siberian Express is one of the longest train routes in the world and connects entire Russia.
Moscow, on the Moskva River in western Russia, is the nation’s cosmopolitan capital. In its historic core is the Kremlin, a fortified complex that’s home to the president and treasures in the Armoury. Outside its walls is Red Square, the country’s symbolic center and site of Lenin’s Mausoleum, State Historical Museum and St. Basil’s Cathedral, known for its colorful, patterned, onion-shaped dome.

Russia is a must visit destination as its home to the largest river in Europe, the Volga; the world’s largest lake, the Caspian Sea; the world’s deepest freshwater lake, the Baikal; and the Europe’s highest peak, Elbrus at 5642m.
Moscow is a major political, economic, cultural, and scientific center of Russia. It is home to the Ostankino Tower, the tallest free structure in Europe; the tallest skyscraper in Europe and the Moscow International Business Center.
Aeroflot and Air India have direct flights to Moscow ex-Delhi. Fly Dubai has flights to Moscow via Dubai. Air Arabia has flights via Sharjah.

Other flights are from Delhi- (1) Air Astana via Almaty and (2) Uzbekistan Airways via Tashkent.

• Frequency - Aeroflot and Air India have daily flights. Fly Dubai have daily flights from 8 ports. Air Arabia has 5-7 flights a week to Moscow from 13 ports in India.
The tour package with proof of hotel bookings is a pre-requisite before Russian tourist visa can be applied for.

**VISA INFORMATION**

Regular visa process takes 10 working days whereas urgent visa requires 5 working days.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Standard Itinerary</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Arrival in St. Petersburg at 8:30. Check in to hotel after lunch and enjoy free leisure time.</strong></td>
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| 2   | **After breakfast go on a St. Petersburg city tour.**  
See magnificent **Admiralty Building, St. Isaac’s Cathedral, Fine Arts Square, Church of Resurrection on Spilled Blood, Peter and Paul Fortress, State Hermitage Museum etc.** |
| 3   | **After breakfast at hotel enjoy leisure time and explore St. Petersburg on your own. After lunch at 13:00 at Indian restaurant enjoy entire evening exploring the beautiful city which is particularly romantic after sunset. Enjoy an enchanting Gala Night with graceful dance performances, free flow of vodka/beer, snacks and main course dinner.** |
| 4   | **After breakfast transfer to railway station and board Sapsan train to Moscow. After lunch at Indian restaurant around 14:00 enjoy leisurely time in the beautiful Moscow city. Dinner at 19:00 at Indian restaurant and explore nightlife at leisure.** |
| 5   | **After breakfast at hotel go on a panoramic Moscow city tour: Lenin’s Tomb (outside), St. Basil’s Cathedral (outside), Red Square, Sparrow hills, Moscow State University, Victory park. After lunch at 13:00 Hrs take a trip to Kremlin and see five palaces, four cathedrals as well as the Grand Kremlin Palace. Dinner at 19:00 at Indian restaurant and overnight at hotel.** |
| 6   | **After breakfast checkout from Hotel; transfer to airport for return flight.** |
BOLSHOI THEATRE, MOSCOW:
The Bolshoi Theater in Moscow is one of the world's greatest opera and ballet theaters, and one of Moscow's top visitor attractions. The Bolshoi Theatre is a symbol of Russia for all time. It was awarded this honor due to the major contribution it made to the history of the Russian performing arts.

MOSCOW RIVER CRUISE:
River cruise is the most relaxing and picturesque tour that Moscow can offer. Moscow river cruise is a great way to enjoy the view of historic landmarks and its main attractions. This is a perfect alternative to City Tour by car.
NIKULIN CIRCUS, MOSCOW
Nikulinís circus is considered one of the best in the world and rightfully so. Every single act is a perfection. It's beautiful, artistic, creative, and just amazing. The shows at the Nikulin Circus also have a very theatrical feel to them, with quite a formal atmosphere, a serious approach to circus artistry, and the acts normally connected by a particular theme or narrative thread.

KREMLIN, MOSCOW
The Moscow Kremlin, usually referred to as the Kremlin, is a fortified complex at the heart of Moscow. It is the best known of the Kremlins (Russian citadels) and includes five palaces, four cathedrals, and the enclosing Kremlin Wall with Kremlin towers. The complex serves as the official residence of the President of the Russian Federation.
SUMMER PALACE
This was one of the first palaces of St. Petersburg where Peter the Great, the first Russian Emperor, spent the summer months. The Summer Palace today gives its visitors a rare opportunity to see life as it was 300 years ago.

ST. ISAAC’S CATHEDRAL
St. Isaac’s Cathedral, St. Petersburg, is the largest Russian Orthodox cathedral in the city and is dedicated to Saint Isaac of Dalmatia, a patron saint of Peter the Great, who had been born on the feast day of that saint.
**BRIDGE OPENING**

St. Petersburg is one of few places in the world to have daily opening of drawbridges. The Palace Bridge opens for about 3 hours in the early morning, and just recently, the bridge’s opening has been accompanied by music. It has turned out to be a popular tourist draw though it was primarily intended to allow passage of ships through it.

**CHURCH OF RESURRECTION ON SPILLED BLOOD**

Church of Resurrection on Spilled Blood, St. Petersburg: The Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood is one of the main sights of St. Petersburg. This Church was built on the site where Emperor Alexander II was fatally wounded in March 1881.
PETER AND PAUL FORTRESS
Peter and Paul Fortress has been adapted as the central and most important part of the State Museum of Saint Petersburg history.

STATE HERMITAGE MUSEUM
State Hermitage Museum is a museum of art and culture and is one of the largest and oldest museums in the world since 1764. Its collections comprise over three million items including the largest collection of paintings in the world.
Sochi is often called the unofficial 'Summer Capital' of Russia, or the Black Sea Pearl. Sochi is one of the most multi-ethnic cities in Russia with people of more than 100 ethnic groups living there. Sochi has many sightseeing places like Riviera Park, Sochi Art Museum, Museum of Sochi Sport Honour, Sochi Discovery World Aquarium, Sochi Olympic Park.

With a population of about 1.3 million, a rich history, deep culture and strong economic influence, Kazan has just recently earned the reputation of a sports city. This vibrant city with over 1000 years of history is an excellent travel destination, and the number of tourists visiting is rapidly increasing every year.
It is the biggest and deepest freshwater lake in the world, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is the planet's deepest (1637m) and oldest lake, as well as its largest body of freshwater, containing over one fifth of the world's supply. The water mass is a key factor to the climate of the lake's banks. Winters are often milder, summers are chillier. Zabaykalsky National Park is very popular among tourists visiting Lake Baikal.
Russian cities like Moscow and St. Petersburg offer excellent Russian, continental and Indian food. Indian buffet meals are very popular among Indian tourists traveling to Russia and there are many good Indian restaurants to choose from!
Russian currency is Ruble

As of September 2017:

1 USD = 58.56 RUBLE

1 RUBLE = 1.09 INR
Moscow metro train stations are arguably the most beautiful in the world.

Boat cruises are a great way to go sightseeing.

Comfortable AC buses of all sizes.

Sapsan – the fastest train in Russia. The journey from St. Petersburg to Moscow takes about 4 hours.
• In terms of land area, Russia is the largest country in the world. Russia is located across 9 time zones.
• Russia has the world’s longest railways. The Trans-Siberian Railway spans almost all the way across the county, making it the single longest railway in the world. Its originates from Moscow and covers 9200 km to Vladivostok on the Pacific shore in the east in about 152 hours.
• Russians drive on the right-hand side of the road.
• Russia has a wide range of natural resources and is one of the world’s largest producers of oil.
• The world’s first satellite, named Sputnik, was launched by the Soviet Union in 1957.
• The official residence of the Russian president is the Kremlin in Moscow. The name Kremlin means fortress.
• Russia has over 40 national parks and 100 wildlife reserves.
• Lake Baikal is the largest freshwater lake in the world. It reaches 1,642 metres (5,387 feet) in depth and contains around 20% of the world’s unfrozen fresh water.
• Mount Elbrus is the highest mountain in Russia (and Europe), it reaches a height of 5,642 metres (18,510 feet).
• Russia’s Volga River is the longest in Europe, with a length of around 3,690 kilometres (2,293 miles).
• Russia has the world’s largest area of forests.
• There are approximately 10 million more women in Russia than there are men.
• In Russia, men never give an even amount of flowers to a woman. You should always make sure you give them in odd numbers, unless going to a funeral, where even numbers are the rule.
• Moscow has more billionaire residents than any other city in the world.
• Russian’s will never shake hands over a doorway. It is believed to be a bad omen and most Russians are convinced the action will lead to an argument.
• Russia's greatest museum - The Hermitage, also in St Petersburg - is home to around 70 cats, which guard its treasures against rodents.
• Russia sent a dog in space in 1957 and there’s a monument sculpture of him in Russia.
• Traffic in Moscow is so bad that wealthy Russians hire fake ambulances to beat the jams.
• There’s a restaurant in Moscow staffed entirely by twins.
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