

Bailliage National de Russie Presents:

OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY GRAND CHAPITRE

22–25TH SEPTEMBER, 2011-ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA WITH AN OPTION TO VISIT MOSCOW

We welcome all the Members of the Confrerie Mondiale de la Gastronomie and their friends and relatives to enjoy our Russian hospitality, and to participate in the specially created Introduction Program to St. Petersburg.



Daily Program and Itinerary Details 22nd-25th September, 2011

Due to the requirements for a Russian Tourism Visa, and the rich full-day program we have prepared for all our foreign guests, our below itinerary is offered to each participant with all its features included in the price. The only optional items not included are:

Participation in the cultural evening program (Sept. 23rd);
Independent extension stay in St. Petersburg before or after the official tour program days; Tour extension to

Moscow (Sept. 25-27th).

Day 1: 22nd September, 2011, Thursday: "Welcome to St. Petersburg"



Individual arrivals in St. Petersburg. Each arriving member and his/her party will be met and transferred to the hotel of their choice, either **Grand Hotel Europe** (left), or **Hotel Novotel** (right).



Your personal guide will provide short commentary and an orientation

tour en-route. Check in to your chosen hotel. - Free time.

18:00 Report in the lobby of your hotel to your group leader for a departure to our dinner restaurant.

18:45 Departure by motor coach to the **Russian Vodka Room Restaurant. Dress Code:** Business-like, and all members to wear their chains.

20:00 Upon our arrival we shall have a brief tour of the Russian Vodka Museum, where the Welcome Cocktails, and opportunity for Russian vodka tasting will also take place. Later our Welcome Dinner will be served in the Museum's restaurant. Our host for the evening will be **Mr. Leonid Garbar,** Baillie of St. Petersburg, and the Proprietor of the restaurant.

About 23:00 Return to the hotel. End of the day's program. - Overnight in your hotel.

Day 2: 23rd September, 2011, Friday: "Russian Countryside Experience"

Starting at 07:00 Breakfast available in your hotel restaurant as you please.

09:00 Departure from the hotel by bus to the pier where we'll board a "**Meteor**" hydrofoil, which shall speed us across the **Gulf of Finland** to the town of **Peterhof** (in Russian **Petrodvorets**), where the old summer palace of **Peter the Great** is located. (NOTE: Due to the approaching fall and pending on the strength of the wind, the operation of this cruise will be subject to the height of sea waves.) The Peterhof palace complex consists of the grand palace, about 20 smaller palaces





and pavilions, and seven incredibly beautiful and peaceful gardens and park areas. Since there are several royal palaces in St. Petersburg, all built in the early 1700's baroque style, the main attraction is not the palace, but the park and fountain ensemble, which is a unique landmark of the Russian artistic culture and style of that era. There are a total of 174 different fountains, and 4 water cascades, of which the most majestic is called the "Samson". (See the photo on the cover page of this program.) It is a huge, wide, terraced cluster of fountains with numerous gilded and dramatic statues shooting water high up into the air. It has gained worldwide fame and has also become a symbol of the city.



13:00 A traditional Russian lunch will be served in the "Summer Palace Restaurant", located just outside of Peterhof. During the lunch a Russian national **folkloric song and music program** will entertain us.

After the lunch we shall start our return trip to the city, but on the way we'll experience two more visits. Our first stop will be at the

Konstantinovski Palace, located not far from our restaurant and the village of Peterhof. This palace is the official St. Petersburg residence and reception hall of the **Russian President** whenever he is in St. Petersburg.

Our second stop will include a short ride between a few unique stations of St. Petersburg's famous underground train system, locally called "**Metro**",

Approximately 16:30 Return to your hotel. - Free time for relaxation.

18:00 Optional Program for those guests who chose the cultural evening show:
Departure from your hotel to the optional evening program of Russian culture. You will be offered two choices: A) An Evening of Russian Classical Ballet (the name of the ballet performance shall be announced earliest in August when the local theaters publish their fall playbill), or B) An Evening of Russian Folkloric Dance and Music Performance.

Note: For those guests who opted not to participate in the cultural evening program there will be free time until about 21:30, when both parties will join together for the "après theatre souper". Transportations are provided for all parties.

19:00 Curtain time for both the Ballet and the Folkloric Performances.

Approximately 22:00 A late dinner will be served for all guests joining together at the **Caviar Bar** of the **Grand Hotel Europe**, hosted by **Mr. Leon Larkin**, the General Manager of the hotel. - After the dinner end of the 2nd day program. - Overnight in your hotel.

<u>Day 3: 24th September, 2011, Saturday: "Imperial St. Petersburg, and Gala Dinner"</u>

Starting at 07:00 Breakfast in your hotel restaurant as you please.

09:00 Departure from the hotel on a comprehensive morning tour "**Introduction to St. Petersburg**". The program includes all major sights of the historical center of St. Petersburg, among these locations will be a stop at the most picturesque spot of the city, the "**Strelka**", as the tip of the **Vasili Island** is called. A unique panoramic view of the city is offered from this point, next to the **Rostral Lighthouses**. On the other side of the **Palace Bridge**, across the Neva River, is the starting point of **Nevskij Prospekt**, the pulsating main street, and the



heart of St. Petersburg. The main fashionable shopping malls, department stores, hotels, restaurants, and commercial centers are located on this relatively short strip.

During your drive along the street you will see the Winter Palace, the Palace Square, the General Head Quarter's Arch, the monumental Alexander Pillar, the Admiralty Building, the Kazan Cathedral, the Gostinnyi Dvor Department Store, the Alexandriinski Theater, and other famous palaces and historical buildings of interest. You will cross the Moika, Griboyedova, and Fontanka Canals and drive across the unique Anichkov Bridge decorated with four horses at each corner. Part of the touring will be by bus, but also a boat ride along the Neva River, and along the canals of the city is included. Our canal cruise shall end at the Peter and Paul Fortress.



The **Peter and Paul Fortress** is considered to be the birthplace of St. Petersburg, having been founded by **Peter the Great** in May 1703. The fortress was built with the purpose for the city defense. However, it was soon realized that its location was too far inside the city. In 1872 it became a prison, and held political prisoners. The main part of the fortress' architectural ensemble is the **Cathedral of Peter & Paul** designed by an Italian architect **Tresini**. The Cathedral became the burial place for many members of the **Romanov Dynasty** rulers including Peter the Great himself, and the last Emperor **Nikolai II** and some of his family members.

It has been an ages long local tradition of St. Petersburg to give a noon time signal to the citizens by firing one of the historical guns at the ramparts of the Fortress. On this remarkable day one of our international Grand Chapitre guests shall have the unique honor of announcing the 12:00 noon moment for the entire city by pulling the gun's trigger.

12:30- 13:45 A floating lunch will be served aboard the **New Island** restaurant ship. This restaurant is famous for having hosted many international politicians, dignitaries and celebrities, among them the ex-president George W. Bush.

14:00 Visit to the **Hermitage Museum** and to the **Winter Palace**, including a special visit to the **Gold Chamber**.

The Hermitage Museum is one of the world's leading, most famous and prestigious museums today. It was founded by Catherine the Great in 1764 first as her private court museum. Today the museum includes a total of six buildings, and contains 460 rooms, and about 3 million exhibits. In the Hermitage Museum you can admire the works of such famous artists like Titian, da Vinci, Raphael, Caravaggio, Crespi, Giordano, Velazquez, El Greco, Rubens, Rembrandt (one of the world's best collections), van Dyck, all the way to Degas, van Gogh, Matisse, Monet, Cezanne, Picasso and others - too many to mention.



The Winter Palace section of the building is the former residential palace of the **Romanov Dynasty** czars. Our tour will include the throne rooms, gilded and marbled reception and ceremonial halls, huge ballrooms, and endless collections of art and wealth.

16:15 Return to the hotel for relaxation and personal preparation for the Grand Gala Evening to follow.



Induction Ceremony and The Gala Dinner

18:45 Departure from the hotel to the unique **Yousupov Palace**, which shall be the location for our Cocktail Reception, Membership Induction Ceremony, and the Gala Dinner. The Yousupov Palace used to be one of the five palaces this Russia's wealthiest family had in St. Petersburg prior to the revolution. The palace has also a notorious side because the famous preacher and religious healer, **Gregory Rasputin**, was murdered in the cellar of the palace by young **Felix Yousupov**.

About 20:00 The Gala Dinner and Evening Program will start.

After 23:00 Return to your hotel and overnight. – End of the 3rd day program.

Day 4: 25th September, 2011, Sunday: "Good Bye St. Petersburg!"

Breakfast in your hotel on your own.

For the guests returning back home today:

Transfer to the airport, or train station will be arranged individually according to the departure information as you have provided.

Our official St. Petersburg tour ends at this point.

Each guest may extend his/her stay in Russia either in St. Petersburg or Moscow by booking one of the below Options A or B.

Option A) TOUR EXTENSION IN St. PETERSBURG

For the guests who have purchased extended stay in St. Petersburg:

See Page 7 for details and prices.

Option B) TOUR EXTENSION IN MOSCOW

For the guests who have purchased our optional Moscow Tour extension:

See Page 8 for details and prices.

10th Russian Grand Chapitre in St. Petersburg Basic Tour Prices: 4-Day Program 22-25 September:

PRICES FOR NOVOTEL HOTEL PACKAGE (4 stars):

\$ 2.190 USD per person in twin/double bedded rooms

\$ 390 USD per person single room supplement

PRICES FOR GRAND HOTEL EUROPE PACKAGE (5 stars):

\$ 2.690 USD per person in twin/double bedded rooms

\$ 540 USD per person single room supplement



THE ABOVE PRICES INCLUDE:

- Russian visa support document (<u>Note</u>: Each person must obtain his/her personal Russian visa through their local Russian Consulate or Embassy in their country. For that you must first receive a tour program confirmation from DenRus St. Petersburg, Ltd.);
- Roundtrip escorted transfer from the arrival point (airport or train station) in St. Petersburg to your chosen hotel and back in a private vehicle;
- Accommodation for three (3) nights in the hotel of your preference, both located in the center
 of St. Petersburg, in twin/double bedded, or single rooms, as you have booked and paid for;
- Daily buffet breakfasts in your hotel restaurant;
- The following meals: A festive Welcome Dinner at the Russian Vodka Room Restaurant, (Day 1); traditional Russian luncheon in the Summer Palace Restaurant (Day 2); a second luncheon in a Chaine member restaurant (Day 3); an Apres Theater Dinner (Day2) in the Caviar Room Restaurant of the Grand Hotel Europe;
- All daily sightseeing tours and excursions as mentioned in the day-by-day itinerary above;
- All admission tickets to the palaces, parks, museums, cathedrals as included in the program;
- An Invitation to the Induction Ceremony and Gala Dinner with cocktail reception and a gift;
- Services of an English speaking group guide during all the transfers and excursions. (<u>Note:</u>
 If guide's services on other languages will be required, this may result in an additional charge, however, provided there will be a minimum of ten persons requesting a guide of any other language, guidance with that language shall be provided automatically);
- Russian government hotel registration fee;
- All local Russian taxes and VAT;
- Grand Chapitre Registration, administrative and handling fee

THE PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Your international transportation ticket to and from St. Petersburg, or Moscow;
- The processing cost of each participant's personal Russian visa in their home country;
- The cost of those parts of the program mentioned as "Optional". The details for the optional cultural program (23rd of May) shall be announced as soon as the theatre schedule has been published;
- Any gratuities or tipping to the tour guide and driver;
- Any services of purely personal nature;

OPTIONAL: Russian Cultural Evening Program (Day 2) on 23rd of September:

\$190 per person for the Russian Ballet Theater

This price includes an admission ticket to a Ballet Performance, and a round-trip transportation from your hotel to the theater with an escort. For those guests accommodated in the Novotel Hotel a transportation after the theater performance to the Caviar Room for the after theater dinner, and after the dinner a continuation transportation to your hotel, are also included. (IMPORTANT: The price as quoted includes an Orchestra level seat on a normal classical ballet performance. However, due to the nature of the local theaters there may be special visiting artists performing, or the show may be for visiting state dignitaries, and the ticket prices are subject to change accordingly. Our organizing committee reserves the right to change the total price of this option, in case the ticket prices will be increased for any unexpected reason.)

\$ 145 per person for the Russian Folkloric Dance and Music Performance

This price includes an admission ticket to the Folkloric Performance, and a round-trip transportation from your hotel to the theater with an escort. For those guests accommodated in the Novotel Hotel a transportation will be provided after the theater to the Caviar Room for the after theater dinner, and also after the dinner a return transportation to Hotel Novotel.



A) <u>TOUR EXTENSION OPTION - St. PETERSBURG FOR ANY NUMBER OF</u> ADDITIONAL DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER THE TOUR PROGRAM

Our experience from earlier years has shown that this option is a most popular one, since many of our guests arriving from far away, considering this visit to be their once-in-a-lifetime visit to Russia, wish to stay in St. Petersburg for more nights than included in our basic tour program. It is understandable that in this historical city only a limited number of the most famous local sites can be visited, and many of our guests wish to continue exploring the city on their own, or under our guidance.

Under this option you will have an opportunity to extend your stay in St. Petersburg at our special Rotisseurs' hotel prices for any number of nights, either prior to the beginning of our official tour program period of 22 -25th September, or after that.

PRICES FOR OPTIONAL HOTEL NIGHTS IN St. PETERSBURG:

HOTEL NOVOTEL SPECIAL PRICES PER EACH EXTRA NIGHT:

\$ 145 USD per person in double or twin standard rooms including breakfast and taxes **\$ 275** USD per person in a single standard room including breakfast and taxes Note: Rooms can be upgraded to Executive Class, or to Junior Suites. Prices to be quoted upon request.

GRAND HOTEL EUROPE SPECIAL PRICES PER EACH EXTRA NIGHT:

\$ 190 USD per person in double or twin standard rooms including breakfast and taxes **\$ 370** USD pr person in single standard room including breakfasts and taxes Note: Rooms can be upgraded to Executive Class, or Suites. Prices to be quoted upon request.

THE ABOVE HOTEL PRICES IN St. PETERSBURG INCLUDE:

- Private transfer from your point of international arrival and departure in St. Petersburg (airport or trains station) to your hotel and return;
- Accommodation per night in the type of room you have requested;
- Breakfast daily in the hotel restaurant;
- All taxes and service charges;
- Russian government hotel registration fee.

<u>NOTE:</u> The prices per night are the same regardless if you booked them for your stay either before or after the official tour dates.

Before you decide where to stay, you may obtain additional information about the hotels included in our Grand Chapitre program by checking the following websites:

HOTEL NOVOTEL:

http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-5679-novotel-st-petersburg-centre/index.shtml

GRAND HOTEL EUROPE:

http://www.grandhoteleurope.com/web/stpetersburg/grand hotel europe.isp



B) TOUR EXTENSION OPTION - MOSCOW 25-27th SEPTEMBER:

(NOTE: Participation of a minimum of six (6) persons are required for the operation of this tour.)

Day 4: 25th September, 2011, Sunday: "Good Bye St. Petersburg! - Hello, Moscow!"

Early breakfast in your hotel in St. Petersburg.

About 07:00 (Note: The exact time to be announced later.) Group departure to the airport for a flight to **Moscow.** Upon arrival a transfer to your 5-star **Sheraton Palace Hotel**.

12:30 A lunch will be served at the Café Pushkin.

14:30 Departure for a special and unforgettable "Explore Moscow Tour", which shall be conducted partly on foot along the historical Tverskaya Street, and partly by the city's famous underground Metro train system, We shall see all the world famous symbols and sites of both the ancient Russia, the Soviet Union, and today's modern Russia located in the Red Square area, the GUM Department Store, the St. Basil's Cathedral, the Lenin Mausoleum, the old China Town, the Historical Museum, just to name a few. On our return trip we shall view some of the unique metro stations of which Moscow is also famous and proud.

17:30 Return to your hotel.

18:30 Optional evening program: Departure to a Moscow Theater for an Opera or Ballet Performance. The final theater program to be announced later.

Day 5: 26th September, 2011, Monday: "Life in Moscow"

After 07:00 Breakfast in your hotel restaurant on your own.

10:00 A most unique visit to the backstage of the Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre.

12:30 A visit to the new underground shopping mall, located next to the Kremlin. An opportunity to have a snack in the food court on your own.

14:30-16:00 A tour into the heart of the real Russian political power and government, the **Kremlin Grounds**, where we shall view the ancient **Tsar's Cannon**, the **Tsar's Bell**, and the **Uspensky Cathedral**, the church, where all the Russia's Tsars and Emperors had their coronation ceremonies held. Our program shall also include the **Kremlin Armoury Museum**, well known for its historical treasures, among them the famous **Faberge Easter Eggs**, Russian **imperial crowns**, **thrones**, and other incredible treasures. A real highlight of our stav in Moscow.

17:00 Return to the hotel.

19:30 Departure to a local **Dinner Amical** together with our Moscow guild members in a Moscow Chaine member restaurant.

Overnight in your hotel.

Day 6: 27th September, 2011, Tuesday: "Good Bye To Moscow and Russia!"

07:00 Breakfast will be served in your hotel restaurant.



Check out from your hotel and transfer to the Moscow Airport. Your departure time from the hotel will depend on your flight departure time as you have booked. Your transfer to the airport is included in the tour price. – Upon arrival at the airport check in to your flight.

The Moscow Extension Tour ends at this point. However, there is a possibility to extend your Moscow stay for any number of nights on your own at our special Chaine des Rotisseurs hotel prices. Please, see prices below.

PRICES FOR OPTIONAL 3-DAY MOSCOW EXTENSION TOUR, 25-27 SEPTEMBER:

- \$ 1.995 USD per person in twin/double bedded rooms
- **\$ 300** USD per person single room supplement
- \$ 190 USD per person for the optional Moscow Evening Ballet, or Opera Performance.

THE ABOVE PRICES IN MOSCOW FOR AN OPTIONAL EXTENDED STAY INCLUDE:

- One way air ticket from St. Petersburg to Moscow
- Arrival and departure transfers to your hotel;
- Accommodation for two nights in **Sheraton Palace Hotel** in a standard room;
- Breakfast daily in the hotel restaurant;
- Touring program as detailed in the day by day itinerary including the admission fees with an English speaking guide;
- One lunch, and one Dinner Amical with local Chain members;
- All taxes and service charges;
- Russian governmental hotel registration fee.

General Cancellation Rules regarding both St. Petersburg, and Moscow tour parts:

- A deposit of \$ 300 per person will be required for each booking. The balance will be due not later than the 25th of August, 2011.
- If cancelled on or before 25th of August, 2011, a full refund will be provided
- If cancelled on or before 8th of September, 2011, a cancellation fee of \$ 300 per person will be charged
- If cancelled 9th of September, 2011, or later no refund can be provided

To make a cancellation, please, send a brief note by e-mail to <u>ali@denrus.ru</u> informing about your cancellation decision. No reasons are required. It is strongly recommended that each person would obtain a travel insurance protection covering the possibility of lost luggage, medical emergencies during the tour, as well as potential financial losses in case of an unexpected cancellation.

For General Information regarding the 10th Russian Grand Capitre please contact:

Henri Everaars, Baillie Délégué de Russie; henrieveraars@gmail.com Yelena Toporets, Directrice Administrative du Bailliage de Russie; chaine.russia@gmail.com

Ali Sadik-Ogli, Chargè de Mission National, International Coordinateur Grand Chapitre; ali@denrus.ru

Information can be found also at: www.chaine-russia.com or www.denrus.ru



<u>FAX RESERVATION FORM</u> FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE 10th Russian Grand Chapitre September 22nd-25th, 2011 in St. Petersburg

We wish to book your Ba rson (); or In Grand Ho	otel Europe for \$ 2.690 p	er person (); I need a single ().
<u>1st participant:</u> LAST NAME:			
First Names:			
Citizenship:	•		·
2 nd participant (if more the	nan 2 persons, please, p	rint a secon	d copy of this form):
LAST NAME:		Male: _	Female:
First Names:		Date of	Birth:
Citizenship:	Passport No:		Expiration:
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