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## MOSCOW OPTIONAL 3 DAY / 2 NIGHT TOUR

### *Comprehensive Moscow with Novorossiysk & Sochi Overviews*

*Duration: 3 days / 2 nights*

*Activity Level: Moderate*

**August 6-8, 2021**

**STANDARD ROOM: \$2195 USD per person (maximum 24 passengers)**

**PREMIUM ROOM: \$2445 USD per person (maximum 24 passengers)**

**MOSCOW HOTEL – Radisson Royal Hotel (or similar)**

[Click here for Hotel Information](#)

*Come with us and spend three days exploring both Novorossiysk and the indomitable city of Moscow, rich in history, culture and character.*

### ***August 6, 2021 – Novorossiysk – Moscow***

*Disembark the World Navigator and commence a short city walk during which you will enjoy views of Tsemesskaya Bay, several monuments and an exterior visit of the battleship "Mikhail Kutuzov", one the world's legendary combat ships that now houses the Black Sea Navy Museum. After your guided walk, you will board your coach and travel to Abrau-Durso, often referred to as the "Russian Small Switzerland". Abrau is a natural lake nestled in the mountains of the peninsula and is the largest mountain lake in North Caucasus. The history of the winery here goes back over 135 years and is a very unique place where Russian sparkling wines are made using classical French technology. The significantly "softer" taste of these wines has resulted in the winery winning many international awards and during your visit you will be treated to a tasting of five varieties of these sparkling wines (please bring a light jacket or sweater as it can be cool in the wine cellars).*

*Following your winery stop, proceed to a local restaurant for lunch, after which you will transfer directly to the airport in Anapa for your flight to Moscow.*

*On arrival in Moscow, you will be greeted and transferred to the Radisson Royal Hotel (or similar). After check-in, board a boat for a beautiful sunset cruise on the Moscva River, followed by a welcome dinner.*

### August 7, 2021 – Moscow

Your day starts with an early breakfast at the hotel and then you will tour the city, starting with the Kremlin grounds and Armoury Chamber. No visit to Moscow is complete without spending time exploring this iconic complex that is included as a UNESCO World Cultural and National Heritage Site. For centuries, the Kremlin has been witness to many well-known and tragic events in Russia's past and as such, is a treasure trove of Russian history. Begin with a tour of the extraordinary, State Armoury, the oldest museum in Russia and home to a vast collection of precious stones, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century jewelry and other priceless artifacts that date back to the 14<sup>th</sup> century. It is also home to an impressive collection of carriages that once belonged to Russian rulers and dignitaries, precious fabrics, royal gowns, and Faberge eggs. Your time here includes viewing Cathedral Square that consists of the Assumption, Archangel, and Annunciation Cathedrals; the Patriarch's Palace; and the Ivan the Great Bell Tower complex.

Next, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and then commence your tour of the city with a visit to the House of Romanov Boyards where the Romanov family lived in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The first tsar of the Romanov dynasty, Mikhail Romanov was believed to have been born in this house in 1596. Today, it is a museum devoted to the lifestyle of the Russian nobility during the 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. Re-board your coach for a panoramic tour of the city that includes viewing the Novodevichy Convent, Moscow University, the Hill of Glory, and the Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer (if able to enter, please note shorts and sleeveless shirts are not permitted).

Continuing on, travel to Bunker 42 which was constructed in 1955 as a command post of the strategic nuclear forces of the Soviet Union. This anti-nuclear underground facility is located 213 feet under Taganka Square. During your tour, learn how the bunker's construction serves as protection from the damaging factors of a nuclear explosion and get a sobering look at the seriousness of the risk of a nuclear war. See how staff members operated inside the bunker and watch a special effects imitation of a nuclear missile launch that definitely won't leave you indifferent.

After the bunker tour, be treated to dinner in the unique and somewhat mysterious Bunker 42 restaurant, actually located within the depths of the bunker itself. After feasting on some traditional favorites, you will transfer back to the hotel for the night.

### August 8, 2021 – Moscow – Sochi

Kick off your final day with breakfast in the hotel and then transfer to the airport for your flight to Sochi. After touchdown, transfer to a local restaurant for lunch before starting your afternoon of touring this wonderful Black Sea city most recently known for hosting the 2014 Winter Olympics. Begin with a drive up into the green hills that overlook Sochi's beaches for a visit to Stalin's Dacha. Nestled amongst towering

*California pine trees is the imposing two-story villa that was once Joseph Stalin's secret dacha. The subdued grey-green color on its façade was intentional, serving to camouflage it from prying eyes, unfriendly visitors, or possible artillery attacks from the sea. Built in 1937, this stately residence with its shaded verandahs is now open to the public and serves as a remarkable and historic hotel for well-connected visitors to Sochi. The villa remains nearly as it was in Stalin's time, with most of its original fixtures still in place. There is even a life-sized wax image of Stalin to be found here, seated at his table before a silver inkpot that was presented to him by Mao Zedong.*

*Your day draws to a close with a panoramic drive to the port where you will rejoin the ship.*

**Special Note:** *This tour includes a mixture of easy to moderate to activity over 3-days that includes, steps, cobblestone and uneven surfaces. The tour may not be suitable for wheelchair guests; however, those who do participate must have a collapsible wheelchair, be able to enter and exit the transportation on their own and have a companion to assist them. Those with other physical limitations or health concerns should carefully evaluate their personal situation. We recommend wearing weather appropriate comfortable, smart casual clothing; flat walking shoes with a closed toe; a sun cap; sunglasses and sunscreen. The order of the sites visited may vary.*

**Included:**

- all tours and entrance fees as stated
- all meals
- flights (Anapa – Moscow / Moscow – Sochi)
- 2 nights Hotel Moscow (Radisson Royal Hotel or similar)
- cancellation/interruption insurance
- gratuities for the guides/drivers

**Not Included:**

- Russia Visa
- misc. expenses