

# EXPEDITION RUSSIA 2019



**ADVENTURE TOUR with Johan Dempers & Muldene Holloway  
of [www.EXPEDITIONEARTH.info](http://www.EXPEDITIONEARTH.info)**

- \* TEAM 1 - MOSCOW, ST PETERSBURG & ARCTIC CIRCLE    1 - 14 March 2019**
- \* TEAM 2 - MOSCOW & ST PETERSBURG TOUR                    1 - 8 March 2019**

## **TEAM 1 & 2**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019**

Depart Cape Town International, South Africa

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019**

Arrival in Moscow.

Meet with our representative at the airport.

Transfer to the city by comfortable mini-van

14:00 - Hotel check in. Early check-in is due to availability. Overnight at the hotel.



**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 - MOSCOW**

Breakfast at the hotel

10:00 Pick up at the hotel and departure for the city orientation tour which includes the most interesting historical sights of the city: the Red Square with St. Basil's Cathedral, Lenin's tomb (outside), State Department Store (GUM), the Christ the Savior Cathedral (inside), the New Maiden Convent (outside), Moscow City business center, the Victory Park, Moscow State university, Sparrow hills observation platform where the amazing view of the city opens. During the tour you will have several stops to enjoy the views and take pictures.



Tour to the Kremlin – the oldest part of the city. For centuries the Kremlin was a residency of Grand Dukes and Tsars, later for Soviet Union’s rulers who lived in the palaces of the Kremlin. Even now Kremlin is an official residency of President Vladimir Putin. That is why part of the territory is closed for tourists.

Walk along the Arbat street so-called Russian Montmartre – one of the oldest streets of Moscow with more than 500 years of history.

18:00 Arrival at the hotel. Overnight at the hotel.



### **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - MOSCOW**

Breakfast at the hotel

10:00 Meet with your guide at the lobby and depart for the tour.

10:00 Metro tour. Explore the Moscow Metro which is recognized as the most beautiful in the world. All stations have a unique design and some of them are recognized as creatures of architectural and artistic art so we may affirm that you will be impressed by the beauty of the underground palaces.

All Russian Exhibition center (VDNKH) with Ostankino Tower (outside) and Space Travel - Cosmonautics museum

After exploring the underground, we will show you people who were the first ones in exploring the highest point – the Space. Walk along the Astronauts' Alley with the monument to the "Subjugators of space" (107 meters high) and visit The Cosmonauts Museum.



Continue to learn the city in one of the most beautiful places of it. VDNKH is a unique complex with the biggest amusement park in the country, amazing pavilions the most of which are recognized as architectural monuments, gold covered fountain of "Friendship of Nations" and the first in the world light and music fountain "Stony Flower". A little further there is another monument which can be called the emblem of Soviet period – the monument "Worker and Collective Farmer".

16:00 Arrival at the hotel. Free time.

OPTIONAL:

\*SHOOTING AK47



## **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - MOSCOW to ST PETERSBURG**

Breakfast at the hotel or packed breakfast.

06:30 Check out and transfer to the railway station.

07:40 – 11:40 Sapsan fast train will take you to St.Petersburg - the Northern capital of Russia.

Meet with your guide at the station and start your acquaintance with the city.

During the panoramic city tour you will see the most interesting historical sights of the city: Nevsky Prospect, the Winter Palace, the Admiralty, St.Isaac's Cathedral, Fine Arts Square, Church of Resurrection on Spilled Blood, Smolny Cathedral, Bronze Horseman, Mars Field, visit the amazing Kazan Cathedral. During the tour you will have several stops to enjoy the views and take pictures.

18:00 Check-in at the hotel. Overnight at the hotel.

## **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - ST PETERSBURG**

Breakfast at the hotel

9:00 meet with your guide at the lobby and depart for the tour.

10:00 - 13:00 Peterhof park and palace.

“Russian Versailles”, “Paradise”, “Pearl of Art”, “The Capital of Fountains” it’s all about Peterhof – palace and park complex on the shore of Gulf of Finland. Peterhof is one of the must-see places of Petersburg as it attracts millions of tourists annually. Art and talent of architects, sculptors, masters of the fountain landscape work embodied in the sights of Peterhof. At all times Peterhof inspired poets, artists and composers. The Grand palace also known as the Summer palace was the favorite summer residency of reigning family.

15:00 Arrival at the hotel. Free time.



#### **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 ST PETERSBURG**

Breakfast at the hotel

10:00 meet with your guide at the lobby and depart for the tour.

Visit Hermitage – one of the brightest sights of the city.

Tour to the Peter and Paul Fortress – fortified island and the place from which the city started growing. Here you will see the second tallest building and the oldest cathedral in the city dedicated to St. Peter and Paul. The cathedral is also famous for being a burial place of nearly all rulers of the country and their family members since Peter the Great.

River ride along the numerous rivers and canals of St. Petersburg which is also called the Second Venice.



16:00 Arrival at the hotel. Free time.

**END OF MOSCOW / ST PETERSBURG TOUR - FAREWELL TO TOUR GROUP 1**

**Friday 8 March Group 2 Departure Flight - Moscow to Cape Town**

## GROUP Tour Continues

**GROUP 1** Late night train departure to Murmansk.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019** train journey 27 hours

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019**



## Murmansk

Visiting several places outside the city of Murmansk.

Depending on cloud cover, the northern lights can be different in strength of luminescence, as well as duration.

If the radiance is visible to the naked eye, regardless of the power and duration of the glow - the tour is considered successful and completed. During the tour, a photo session with the Northern Lights is done.



**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019 10:00 -18:30**

Departure from the hotel

Visit to the central square and the place where the city originated. The history of Murmansk and how it was founded. Journey through the city on the highest terrace and a survey of the central part of the city and the bay. The story of Murmansk continues.

Visit to the memorial complex of sailors who died in peace time (the Temple on top of the hill, the lighthouse, the cutting of the Kursk nuclear submarine, an anchor of 13 tons, an observation deck with a view of the city)

Visit to the memorial "Defenders of the Soviet Arctic in the Second World War" (monument "Alesha"), inspection of the Alesha monument 42 meters high, eternal flame, canons, view of the bay and ships, Leninsky and Oktyabrsky districts of the city and commercial port

Lunch in the cafe "Old fortress"

Visiting the icebreaker "Lenin". Drive through the city, along the longest road bridge in the Arctic Circle. Visit the memorial complex of anti-aircraft gunners of the Great Patriotic War and inspection of Soviet anti-aircraft missile systems of the 60s, visiting the observation deck overlooking the city and the Kola Bay. Completion of the story about the history of Murmansk. Return to the hotel. Free time. If desired, visit the northernmost McDonald's. Ice Sculptures (if available)

Dinner





Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### Visit Sami village (Lapland)

1. Departure from Murmansk. After 1.5 hours, arrival in the Saami village.
2. Meeting of the group on the territory of the settlement in the Sami language, a brief introduction to the instruction with the rules on the territory of the settlement
3. Excursion to the territory of the settlement. Acquaintance with national structures: plague, kuwaks and national utensils. A visit to the alley of bewitched idols.
4. Acquaintance with the animal world of the Sami: deer, elks, husky, foxes, arctic fox and rabbits. Feeding deer from hands and photos of animals is allowed.
5. Visit to the ancient spring lake "Seven Sami Keys" (in summer).
6. Saami games "tug of the pole", "deer and wolves", "Sami football", "throwing" nyartal "on the horns of a deer, throwing willow rings.
7. Riding on a reindeer harness, on a snowmobile in a sleigh.  
Riding on "bananas" attached to snowmobiles, roller-coaster ride on ice caps.

8. Meals in the national cafe Petroglyphs with traditional dishes: "lim" (soup from salmon), "pudze vench" - venison with garnish, non-alcoholic Saami drink "Pakula", black tea, Lovozero bread and other dishes.
9. Photography in the national dress of the indigenous Sami people.
10. Acquisition of magical amulets, amulets
11. Departure to Murmansk.

Tour duration 6 hours

The excursion time in the Sami village is 3 hours.



Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### **Snow village**

Departure from the hotel

Arrival in the city of Kirovsk, lunch in a cafe

Visit to the "Snow Village", a cave of snow, snow sculptures, riding sledges.

### **On request (Additional Fees) :**

- Snowmobiles 0,5 - 2 hours
- Alpine ski slope 1 - 2 hours

Visit the Stone Museum (modern museum, collection of stones from around the world and the history of the development of mining in the mountains of Khibiny).

Dinner in a cafe, in the city of Kirovsk.

Departure to Murmansk, on the way back you can see the northern lights.

Return to the hotel.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019

MURMANSK to MOSCOW Flight

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Flight Moscow to Cape Town



## TOUR PRICING:

**Tour Moscow & St Petersburg - TEAM 2**

Including Airfares from Cape Town, South Africa)

Inclusive of 3 meals per day.



Inclusive of English /Russian speaking tour leader

Inclusive of hands on Photographic training & advice by Johan Dempers & Muldene Holloway

3.5 - 4 Star Hotels accommodation included.

**Price: 33 700**

\*Deposit of R 8000 paid on booking with **balance payable on/before 15 Dec 2018**



## **Complete Tour: Moscow & St Petersburg & Arctic Circle - TEAM 1**

Including Airfares from Cape Town, South Africa)

Inclusive of 3 meals per day.

Inclusive of English /Russian speaking tour leader

Inclusive of hands on Photographic training & advice by Johan Dempers & Muldene Holloway

3.5 - 4 Star Hotels accommodation included.

No shower facilities on Train.

**Price: R 48 500**

\*Deposit of R 8000 paid on booking with **balance payable on/before 15 Dec 2018**