The tour, our fourth Paideia venture, is sponsored by the Reed College Russian Department and Alumni Office as an introduction to Russian culture from its beginnings through the modern era. We shall visit Russia's two largest cities, Moscow and St. Petersburg, and the four smaller towns of Sergiev Posad, Yaroslavl, Rostov the Great, and Novgorod the Great. As the country's present and former capital, Moscow and St. Petersburg need no introduction. The smaller towns, although unfamiliar to many of us, played leading roles in the early development of Russian culture and contain architectural monuments from the eleventh through the seventeenth centuries of extraordinary beauty and interest, including ancient monasteries and convents, centers of the Orthodox Christianity that helped to lay the foundations of Russian culture over a millennium ago (the East Slavs were converted by the Byzantines in the late tenth century) and that with numerous other influences continues to inform it today.

We shall also visit Russia's principal museums, among them the Tretyakov Gallery and the Pushkin Museum in Moscow, and the magnificent Hermitage and the Russian Museum in St. Petersburg. The Tretyakov Gallery, devoted to Russian art, contains one of the country's finest assemblies of icons, as well as first-rate examples of nineteenth-century realism and twentieth-century modernism. The elegant Pushkin Museum is Russia's second most important collection of European art, both classical and modern. The Hermitage is universally recognized as one of the world's greatest art institutions, with stupendously rich holdings representing virtually every stage of European fine and applied art from Greek and Roman antiquity through the modern era and the highest achievements of Impressionism and Post-Impressionism. And the Russian Museum is the country's second home of Russian art and comparable to the Tretyakov Gallery in the exceptional quality and range of its collection, which includes key works of the late nineteenth-century Itinerant (or Wanderer) school, the turn-of-the-century World of Art movement, and the early twentieth-century avant-garde Suprematists and Constructivists.

But remarkable historical sites, stunning architecture, and superb museums are only part of the tour, as the following itinerary will show, with its movement between the modern and the medieval, the familiar and the exotic, the urban and the rural, and the secular and the ecclesiastic, as permeable as the boundary between the last two realms has often been.

The tour is open to any adult, young or old, who wishes to learn more about Russia and its fascinating history and culture and brilliant art and music. No command of the Russian language is necessary, since the tour will be accompanied by English-speaking Russian guides selected for their expert historical knowledge and linguistic skill.

The tour organizer and leader, Judson Rosengrant, has taught Russian language, literature, and culture at Reed College, the University of Southern California, and Indiana University, and translation theory and practice and American literature at St. Petersburg State University. He holds the doctorate in Slavic Languages and Literatures from Stanford University and has been awarded post-doctoral fellowships by Harvard University, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Fulbright Program. He has visited the Soviet Union and Russia numerous times over many years and published extensively as a scholar, translator, and editor of Russian literature and historiography. This will be the seventh Russian tour he has organized and led, the most recent for Reed in January 2006.
CONTENTS

Itinerary 3
Costs 13
Conditions and Caveats 13
Insurance 14
Visa 14
Other Information 15
Documentation and Payments 15
Readings and Resources 16
Registration Form 19

All questions about procedures and schedules, the tour itself, or any other matter of interest or concern should be addressed to the tour leader:

_Judson Rosengrant, Ph.D._
_Paideia Russian Tour_
P.O. Box 551
_Portland, OR 97207_

_503.880.9521 mobile/voice mail_
jrosengrant@earthlink.net

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The names and e-mail addresses of previous tour participants will gladly be provided upon request.

Although the flights indicated below assume a Portland departure and return on Delta, you may embark from any city or use any carrier you wish, providing your arrival in Moscow and departure from St. Petersburg coincide with those of the group. See page 13 for details and exceptions.
Day 1  Fri., Jan. 5  Portland-Moscow

LV Portland (PDX) at 7:00A on Delta DL1683  Boeing 757
AR Atlanta (ATL) at 2:37P
LV Atlanta at 3:45P on Delta DL46  Boeing 767-300

Day 2  Sat., Jan. 6  Moscow

AR Moscow (SVO) at 10:20A

Transfer by coach to the Hotel Ukraina (Ukraine) facing the Moscow River in the city center

Lunch at the hotel

The recently refurbished Hotel Ukraina (1957), one of seven skyscrapers built in the late 1940s and 1950s in the distinctive neo-Gothic 'wedding-cake' style favored by Stalin, was meant for high-ranking Soviet officials visiting the capital. Today it offers all the amenities of a modern four-star hotel.

Afternoon: Open

Dinner at the hotel

Evening: Open

Day 3  Sun., Jan. 7  Moscow

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning: Bus tour of the city, with guide

Lunch at a restaurant

Afternoon: Excursion to the Tretyakov Gallery, with guide

Founded in 1856, the Tretyakov Gallery is one of the country's two main collections of Russian national art, with over 130,000 paintings, sculptures, and graphic works, ranging from eleventh-century Byzantine and fourteenth-century Russian icons, including masterpieces by Theophanes the Greek and Andrey Rublev, through late nineteenth-century realist portraiture and narrative painting, with celebrated canvases by Repin, Kramskoy, and Serov, and ending in the early twentieth century, with works by Vrubel, Bakst, and Kustodiev, among many other important figures. Thanks to the extraordinary quality and diversity of its holdings and their skillful presentation, the
Tretyakov Gallery offers excellent insight into the origins of Russian national culture and its development—its evolving themes and orientations—over the last millennium.

Dinner at the hotel

Evening: Optional performance at the main venue of the Moscow Circus

**Day 4  Mon., Jan. 8  Moscow**

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning: Excursion to the Kremlin, with guide

The Kremlin (the English comes from the Russian word for 'citadel') is of course the actual and symbolic seat of the Russian government, but it is also a historical and architectural site of unusual beauty. We shall tour the interior of the Kremlin, which in its original earth and log form dates from the founding of Moscow in the late-twelfth century, and visit the splendid Armory Palace historical museum and the astonishing ensemble of Orthodox churches at the Kremlin's heart, including the Cathedral of the Assumption (or Dormition, 1475-79), the Cathedral of the Annunciation (1484-89), and the Cathedral of the Archangel (1505-08), the burial place of the tsars until the early eighteenth century, when Peter the Great (1672-1725) moved the government to his newly built capital of St. Petersburg and was himself interred there in its Peter and Paul Cathedral (see Day 9).

Lunch at a restaurant

Afternoon: Excursion to Novodevichy (New-Maiden) Convent and its museum and cemetery, with guide

Founded in 1524 as a cloister for noblewomen, Novodevichy Convent consists of a group of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century buildings of extraordinary beauty and appeal, including the stately Cathedral of Our Lady of Smolensk, built in 1524-25. The convent's adjacent cemetery is one of the country's most distinguished and contains the graves of the writers Gogol, Chekhov, Mayakovsky, Bulgakov, and Olesha, the film director Eisenstein, the composer Shostakovich, the pianist Svyatoslav Richter, the ballerina Galina Ulyanova, and the disgraced Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, among many other important nineteenth- and twentieth-century figures.

Dinner at the hotel

Evening: Optional performance at the New Hall of the Bolshoi Ballet and Opera, near the company's landmark 1825 Main Hall (closed in 2005 for a three-year, $800-million overhaul). The program for this evening, as for the others set aside herein, will be published later in the fall, at which time participants will have a chance to purchase tickets in a number of seating categories.
Day 5  Tues., Jan. 9  Moscow

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning: Excursion to the Tolstoy Museum in the Khamovniki (Weavers) district in central Moscow, with guide

In keeping with the enormous stature of the author of *War and Peace* and *Anna Karenina*, there are in fact two Tolstoy museums in Moscow, but we shall visit the one in the home he and his family used when not at Yasnaya Polyana (Clear Glade), their country estate southeast of Moscow near the city of Tula. Besides providing a revealing look at the everyday domestic arrangements of Count Leo Tolstoy (1828-1910) and his large family, the Khamovniki house offers interesting insight into upper-class urban life in Russia toward the end of the nineteenth century.

Brief stop at the nearby St. Nicholas of the Weavers, a colorful parish church dating from the mid-seventeenth century

Lunch at a restaurant

Afternoon: Excursion to the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, with guide

The Pushkin Museum is, after the Hermitage in St. Petersburg, Russia's second home of non-Russian art, with a distinguished collection representing ancient Egypt, Greek and Roman antiquity, Byzantium, and Western Europe from the early Renaissance through the modern period, including Impressionism and Post-Impressionism and major works of Monet, Cézanne, Van Gogh, Picasso, and especially Matisse, thanks to the great Moscow collectors Ivan Morozov and Sergey Schukin, who were among the first to recognize his genius and purchase his art.

Optional visit to the Cathedral of Christ the Savior (1995-97)

Built as an emphatic national symbol of repudiation of the Soviet legacy, the cathedral stands on the site of the original nineteenth-century cathedral demolished with no less emphatic symbolism by Stalin in 1933 to make way, after much indecision and delay, for a large municipal swimming pool, completed in 1959. However one may regard the cultural and historical significance or aesthetic merit of the new cathedral (and given the complexity and importance of the underlying issues, the views of Russians themselves vary widely), the marble and granite structure, built at a cost of at least 360 million dollars, is very impressive indeed, as are the ornate interiors of its upper and lower sanctuaries and their galleries.

Dinner at the hotel

Evening: Open
Day 6  Wed., Jan. 10  Moscow-Sergiev Posad-Yaroslavl

Breakfast at the hotel

Check out of the hotel and transfer by coach to the town of Sergiev Posad for a tour of the Holy Trinity-St. Sergius Monastery, with local guide.

Sergiev Posad (Sergius's Trading Quarter), a small town about fifty miles northeast of Moscow, is the site of the Trinity-St. Sergius Monastery, founded in the fourteenth century by the monk Sergius of Radonezh and the holiest in Russia. Besides its great historical significance and cultural prestige as the epicenter of Russian Orthodoxy from the fifteenth century until its closing by a nervous Bolshevik government from 1920 until 1946, the monastery is noted for its striking architecture, including Trinity Cathedral (1422-23), containing the relics of St. Sergius and an iconostasis painted by the artel of Andrei Rublev and Daniil Cherny; the Church of the Holy Spirit (1476); and the gold-domed Cathedral of the Assumption, commissioned by Ivan the Terrible (1530-84) and completed in 1585.

Lunch at a restaurant in Sergiev Posad

Afternoon: Transfer by coach to Yaroslavl and the Hotel Yubileynaya (Jubilee) on the Kotorosl River, a journey of about 125 miles.

First mentioned in the chronicles in 1071 as an outpost of the Rostov-Suzdal principality, itself a northeastern dependency of the kingdom of Kievan Rus (c. 880-1169) and then an independent state until its absorption by Muscovy in the late fifteenth century, Yaroslavl is situated at the convergence of the Kotorosl and the Upper Volga, a key trading route in medieval times. Thanks to its ancient origin and economic importance and its relatively unscathed survival of the 'Tatar Yoke' (the long-term domination of the region by the khans of the Mongol Golden Horde, c. 1238-1480), Yaroslavl offers several sites of exceptional interest, including the twelfth-century Monastery of the Transfiguration of the Holy Savior and its eponymous cathedral (1216-24), the Church of Elijah the Prophet (1647-50) with its magnificent frescoes and iconostasis, and the churches and museums of the Volga embankment, one of the most beautiful to be found on that storied river.

Dinner at the Spasskie vorota (Savior Gate) on the grounds of the Transfiguration Monastery

Evening: Open

Day 7  Thurs., Jan. 11  Yaroslavl-Rostov the Great

Breakfast at the hotel

Check out of the hotel
Morning: Tour of Yaroslavl, with local guide

Lunch at a restaurant in Yaroslavl

Afternoon: Transfer to Rostov the Great and the hotel Usadba Pleshanova (Pleshanov's Estate), a trip of about 35 miles

Tour of Rostov, with local guide

First mentioned in the chronicles in 862 as a settlement on the shore of Lake Nero, Rostov was a dominant community within the Rostov-Suzdalian principality until the latter's absorption by Muscovy. The city's chief architectural and historical monuments are the beautiful lakeshore kremlin with its rich ensemble of ancient buildings, including the Cathedral of the Assumption (1213-31); the Avraamiev Monastery (end of the eleventh-beginning of the twelfth century); and the Holy Savior-Yakovlev Monastery (1389).

Dinner at the Slavyansky (Slavic) in the city center

Evening: Open

Day 8 Fri., Jan. 12 Rostov the Great-Moscow-St. Petersburg

Breakfast at the hotel

Check out of the hotel and transfer by coach to Moscow, a distance of about 125 miles.

Lunch at a restaurant in Moscow

Afternoon: Excursion to the New Tretyakov Gallery, with guide. The permanent collection of the New Tretyakov Gallery includes artwork from the Soviet period (1917-91), some of it highly tendentious and all too characteristic of the political climate in which it was made (and as such part of the complex history of twentieth-century Russian culture), some of it grandiose kitsch, but a good deal of it superior by any standard, such as the arresting portraits by Petrov-Vodkin, Nesterov, and Falk, the intricate abstractions of Kandinsky and Filonov, the folkloric whimsy of Chagall, and the avant-garde experimentation of the Suprematists Lisitsky and Malevich and the Constructivist Tatlin.

After visiting the New Tretyakov Gallery, we shall make a brief stop at the famous Red October chocolate factory before going on to Old Arbat Street, known for its buskers and sidewalk artists, its restaurants and cafés, and, not least for souvenir collectors, its excellent shops specializing in high quality but reasonably priced Russian handicrafts, textiles, and ceramics.

Dinner: Open
Evening: Transfer to Leningrad Station for the first-class overnight express to St. Petersburg

Departing just before midnight and arriving around eight the next morning, the express sleeper is a very safe, convenient, and traditional way to travel between the two capitals. Accommodations will be two berths to a compartment.

Day 9  Sat., Jan. 13  St. Petersburg

Transfer from Moscow Station to the Hotel Pribaltiyskaya (Baltic, 1975) facing the Gulf of Finland on Vasilevsky Island (the largest of the forty-four that make up St. Petersburg) and within easy reach of Nevsky Prospect and the city center.

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning: Bus tour of the city, with guide

Lunch at a restaurant

Afternoon: Excursion to the Peter and Paul Fortress and Cathedral, with guide

The city of St. Petersburg was founded in 1703 (it is younger than Boston or New York), and the Peter and Fall Fortress, built to secure the marshy Neva delta on which the new city would eventually rise, was the first large structure to be completed. Its original earthen walls soon replaced by the granite-faced brick we see today, the fortress contains sites of great architectural and historical interest. Chief among them is the Peter and Paul Cathedral, finished in 1733 by the Italian architect Domenico Trezzini in a deliberately Western European style intended to symbolize Peter the Great's fundamental reorientation of Russian society. The cathedral contains the tombs of Peter himself and almost all the members of the Romanov dynasty who succeeded him, including Catherine the Great and Alexander I and, after a long delay, Nicholas II and the Empress Alexandra and their children and several family retainers, all of whom were shot, incinerated, and buried in unmarked graves by the Bolsheviks in 1918 but not interred in the cathedral until 1998—an event of great pomp and national symbolism reasserting the deep continuity of Russian history and culture. We shall tour the Cathedral and also visit the Trubetskoy Bastion, dating from the mid-eighteenth century and used by the tsars to hold important political prisoners, including, most famously, the assassin of Alexander II, Vera Figner, the writer Maxim Gorky, and the Bolshevnik leader Leon Trotsky.

Dinner at the hotel

Evening: Open
Day 10  Sun., Jan. 14  St. Petersburg

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning: Excursion to the Hermitage Museum, with guide

The Hermitage (or Ermitage, since the Russian is a transliteration of the French word) is one of the world's greatest museums, with over three million items in its possession. Many of them are on display in the museum's several interconnected buildings, which include the Baroque Winter Palace, designed and built for the Empress Elizabeth by the Italian architect Bartolomeo Rastrelli in 1730-62, and the so-called Small and Large Hermitages later constructed by order of Catherine the Great (reigned 1762-96) to house her private art collection, purchased in 1764, the museum's nominal founding year. Containing works by virtually every major artist in the Western canon, the Hermitage's monumental holdings are far too diverse and comprehensive for brief summary. Among the numerous highlights, however, are the Scythian gold, the Roman portrait sculptures, the two extraordinary Leonardos (the Madonna Litta and the Madonna Benois), the twenty-three Rembrandts (the largest assembly outside the Netherlands, the El Grecos, Bruegels, and Van Dykes, and the numerous works by Cézanne, Picasso, and Matisse. The museum truly is an inexhaustible feast for the eyes and mind.

Lunch at a restaurant

Afternoon: Excursion to the Menshikov Palace on the University Embankment of Vasilievsky Island, with guide

The Menshikov Palace, dating from 1710 and one of the oldest buildings in the St. Petersburg, was the residence of Alexander Menshikov, a childhood friend of Peter the Great and the first governor-general of St. Petersburg. The palace is especially notable for its elegant interior decoration, the work of a series of distinguished European architects, including the above-mentioned Italians Trezzini and Rastrelli and the French master Jean-Baptiste Le Blond. Of particular note are its elaborate parquet floors, beautiful Delft tile, 'theme' rooms featuring a particular style or material (tile, walnut), and paintings, sculptures, furniture, clocks, and other period objects. The palace was at once a luxurious private home, a fine example of Baroque style, and a commanding expression of state power and authority, since the building served in Peter's time not only as the headquarters of the city administration but also as a venue for diplomatic receptions and other state functions.

Dinner at the hotel

Evening: Optional performance at the main theater of the Mariinsky Ballet and Opera Company, founded in 1783 but ironically still known in the United States as the Kirov, the company's name from 1934 to 1991 in honor of the slain Leningrad Communist Party boss Sergey Kirov (see Day 4 for program information).
Day 11  Mon., Jan. 15  St. Petersburg- Novgorod the Great

Breakfast at the hotel

Check out of the hotel and transfer by coach to Novgorod and the Beresta Palace hotel, a distance of about 110 miles

Lunch at the hotel

Afternoon: Tour of the Novgorod kremlin (dating, in its initial log form, from 1044), including the Cathedral of St. Sophia (1045-50), the Millennium Monument (1862), and the renowned museum of old Russian icons, with local guide

Novgorod (New Town), Russia's oldest city, was founded on the Volkov River by the Varangians (a Viking tribe) in 862 as a trading center along the network of inland waterways linking Byzantium with the northern Finns and Slavs and, via the Neva and the Baltic, with Scandinavia and ultimately Iceland, Greenland, and North America. After the collapse of Kievan Rus in the twelfth century, Novgorod, protected by dense northern forests and impassable marshes (at least for cavalry), escaped Mongol Tatar dominion to emerge, with its sister city Pskov, as an independent republic linked to the Hanseatic League of Baltic trading partners until it was annexed by Muscovy in the fifteenth century. Because of its great age, early wealth, and fortunate freedom from Tatar attack, Novgorod has retained a remarkable ensemble of ancient buildings, including the oldest stone structure in Russia, the beautiful Cathedral of St. Sophia, begun by Byzantine and Russian craftsmen just fifty-seven years after the conversion of the Kievan princes to Christianity in 988 and still active to this day.

Dinner at the Detinets (Fortification) in a turret of the Novgorod kremlin

Evening: Open

Day 12  Tues., Jan. 16  Novgorod the Great-St. Petersburg

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning: Continuation with local guide of our tour of Novgorod, including 'Yaroslav's Courtyard', the earliest of whose ensemble of ancient buildings, the Cathedral of St. Nicholas, dates from 1113; the Church of the Transfiguration of the Savior on Ilina Street (1374), the Peryn Cloister and the Church of the Nativity of Our Lady of Peryn (early thirteenth century), the Yuriev Monastery by Lake Ilmen and its Church of St. George (1119), and the nearby museum of wooden architecture with its fascinating array of archaic domestic buildings open for interior examination.

Lunch at the hotel
Check out of the hotel and transfer by coach to St. Petersburg and the Hotel Pribaltiyskaya

Dinner at the hotel

Evening: Open

Day 13  Wed., Jan. 17  St. Petersburg

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning: Excursion to the suburb of Pushkin for a tour of the Catherine Palace and the Imperial Lycée, with guide

Pushkin, or Tsarskoe Selo (Royal Village) as it was known until 1918, lies about sixteen miles southeast of St. Petersburg. Of the several summer palaces built for the tsars, those of Tsarskoe Selo are surely the most extravagant—buildings of sumptuous elegance surrounded by majestic French and English parks. Of particular interest is the baroque Catherine Palace, begun in 1717-23 but redesigned in 1752-57 for the Empress Elizabeth by Rastrelli as a Russian Versailles and named for her mother, Catherine I (not to be confused with Catherine II, the Great, who loathed the building's excess). We shall tour the palace interior, including its recently restored amber room, and visit the nearby Imperial Lycée, the remarkable academic institution where the poet, prose writer, dramatist, critic, and publisher Alexander Pushkin (1799-1837) studied as a boy.

Brief stop on the return at the unique Chesme Church, built in 1777-80 by the Russian architect Yury Felten

Lunch at a restaurant

Afternoon: Excursion to the Pushkin Apartment-Museum at Moika 12

Pushkin was the first truly great figure of Russian literature and, if anyone deserves the title, its founding father. Thanks especially to his exquisite lyric verse, unsurpassed in a native nineteenth- and twentieth-century tradition celebrated for its great poetry, and to his ground-breaking narrative verse, including the novel Eugene Onegin and the epic Bronze Horseman, Pushkin's legacy continues to resonate in Russia as the epitome of elegance, clarity, and psychological and moral power. The poet spent most of his life in St. Petersburg, and his last residence there was the apartment on the Moika Canal near the Winter Palace and the Hermitage Museum. Like the Tolstoy house in Moscow, the apartment gives a vivid sense of upper-class domestic life, but of a different era, one still redolent of the eighteenth century rather than already anticipating the tumultuous transformations of the twentieth.

Dinner at the hotel
Evening: Optional performance at the Mariinsky Theater or a St. Petersburg Philharmonic concert at Shostakovich Hall (see Day 4 for programming)

Day 14  Thurs., Jan. 18  St. Petersburg

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning: Excursion to the Russian Museum, with guide

The Russian Museum in the Mikhailov Palace (built by the Russian architect Karl Rossi in 1819-25) was founded in 1895 and contains the country's second most important collection of Russian art, including superb icons from Novgorod and Pskov dating from the twelfth to the fifteenth centuries, the evocative nineteenth-century landscapes of Shishkin and Levitan, the great late nineteenth-century portraits of Repin and Serov, and a charming display of early Russian folk and applied art, among many other objects of exceptional interest. Those looking for serious art books and exhibition catalogues, lacquer boxes, ceramics, and other choice souvenirs will also appreciate the museum's excellent shops and kiosks.

Lunch: Open

Afternoon: Open

Dinner: Farewell banquet at the Russkiy Kitsch near the university

Day 15  Fri., Jan. 19  St. Petersburg-Portland

Box breakfast

Transfer from the hotel to Pulkovo Airport

LV St. Petersburg at 6:40A on Pulkovo SU850  Tupulev 154
AR Moscow at 8:15A

LV Moscow at 12:55 on Delta DL31  Boeing 767-300
AR New York (JFK) at 3:25P

LV New York at 5:05P on Delta DL1565  Boeing 757
AR Salt Lake City (SLC) at 8:29P

LV Salt Lake City at 8:59P
AR Portland at 9:50P
TOUR COSTS

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CONDITIONS AND CAVEATS

The airfare is a discounted round-trip price from Portland and by carrier rule is not refundable, although for a $50.00 fee changes may be made after the ticket has been purchased. Full payment is normally due within 72 hours of confirmation of the reservation, although the actual period may differ at the airline's discretion. Payment may be made to the tour by cashier's check or money order or to the airline by credit card. Please note that the quoted figure is the currently available Delta contract fare and that it could change before your own reservation is made. Note too that if you participate in the Delta Skymiles program, you will earn 15,204 miles for the Portland itinerary.

Although other connections and routes are possible, the tour recommends Delta with its direct connection to Moscow from the United States and its competitive price. You may, if you wish, delay your departure from St. Petersburg, staying on after the group's scheduled return on January 19. If you choose to do so, the airfare will be the same, and the tour organizer will secure individual hotel accommodations, a private apartment, or a low-cost home stay for you in St. Petersburg at the daily rate, plus a $50 local service fee if you should opt for an apartment or a home stay.

If you do not wish to embark from Portland, or would like to follow a different route or use frequent-flyer miles on another carrier, you may make independent flight arrangements, providing that your arrival in Moscow coincides with the group's, and that such arrangements are made promptly to ensure availability and proper trip coordination. In such cases, the airfare will naturally depend on your departure city and individual needs, but the tour organizer will, if asked to book the flights for you, endeavor to obtain the lowest possible fare, whatever your travel plans may be.

The price for the land portion is also a special group rate, based on twenty passengers, and includes all lodging, all scheduled meals (but not any additional beverages you may order), all bus and train transportation (first-class, two-berth compartments for the latter), all entrance tickets to museums and sites identified in the itinerary (except the evening performances and any other activities listed as optional), and licensed English-speaking Russian guides who are thoroughly versed in Russian history and culture. All accommodations are double occupancy in four-star hotels or, in the smaller cities, in the best three-star hotels available. If you wish, you may obtain a single room for the duration of the tour by paying a $380.00 supplement. A deposit of $750.00, along with the Registration Form (see page 19, below), will secure your place on the tour, with the balance of the land payment due November 1 (see page 15, below). The deposit may be remitted to
the tour by personal check; the balance, however, must paid to the tour by cashier's check or money order to ensure immediate availability of the funds. Unlike the airfare, which by carrier rule is nonrefundable, the land payment will, with written notice to the tour leader of your intention to withdraw, be refundable as follows: up to 36 days before departure, the full amount less $200.00; 35-16 days, less $750; 15 days or less, no refund, except as provided by the tour insurance policy (see below).

Please note that the tour organizer and leader and his operators act only as agents in regard to the transportation, hotel, and other arrangements of the tour, and that they will naturally take every care. However, they can accept no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity in connection with the service of any vehicle or conveyance used to carry out the tour program, or for the acts or defaults of any company or person (including the airline and its employees and representatives) engaged in transporting the participants or in implementing the tour program.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

All participants are required to purchase low-cost travel insurance from Travelex Insurance Services. Travelex has shown excellent accountability and service, and their policies provide a number of valuable benefits, including full trip-cancellation coverage (including reimbursement of withdrawal penalties), emergency medical and/or evacuation coverage, baggage delay or loss coverage, and optional flight insurance. Application forms for, and full descriptions of, the two available policies (Travelite and Travel Plus) will be provided as soon as your tour deposit and registration form have been received. The appropriate application (including payment, which may be made by entering a credit-card number on the form) must be returned to the tour (and not to the insurance company) with your land payment. In filling out the insurance application, enter the total of your land and air payments (but not your visa fee), plus any supplement, as the 'Trip Cost,' and then using the table of whichever policy you select, calculate the premium according to your age. The 'Departure' and 'Return' dates will of course be January 5 and January 19, 2007, respectively, and the application signature date will be the date you actually sign the document. If you choose to extend your visit to Russia beyond the scheduled end of the tour, you may also extend your insurance coverage for up to thirty-one days from your initial departure date at no additional cost simply by entering your later return date (see the insurance brochures for details).

RUSSIAN VISA

The Russian visa fee of $150 is not refundable under any circumstances. All required documents, including the application form, one passport photo, your passport itself, and a cashier's check payable to the tour for the fee must be submitted by November 1. Once your application has been processed by the Russian Consulate, your passport with the visa affixed will be returned to you by secure express courier about three weeks after you have submitted your application. If that schedule will create difficulties for you, the visa processing can be expedited for an additional consular fee. If you do anticipate complications, please inform the tour leader as soon as possible. There are few problems that cannot be solved, providing we are informed in time to address them.
Those committing to the tour with a deposit will at that time receive all visa application forms required by the Russian Consulate, along with detailed instructions for their completion. Please be aware that the Russian Consulate requires your passport itself to issue a visa. If you do not yet have a valid passport, you should obtain one by November 1. Keep in mind that the nonexpedited processing time for new US passports is approximately four weeks. Please be aware too that by Russian rule, your passport must be valid for at least three months after your departure from Russia. If your passport will expire within that period (that is, before April 19, 2006, if you are returning on January 19), you must obtain a new passport or the Russian Consulate will not consider your visa application. The usual processing period for US passport renewal is also about four weeks.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

It will be noted that there are several open evenings during the two-week span of the tour and one open dinner and lunch. On two occasions (January 10 and 16), the open evenings reflect the need for flexibility in regard to arrival times, since bus travel over distance is never entirely predictable. The other evenings, however, may be used in a variety of ways—for privacy and rest, for independent investigation of the night-life (with guidance, as requested), or for individual scheduling, in advance or on-site, of additional performances and concerts. The lack of a scheduled evening meal on January 12, our last day in Moscow, is intended to give you free time to shop and make your own dinner arrangements (with tour assistance, as needed). The lack of a scheduled lunch and excursion on the afternoon of January 18, our full last day in Russia, is also meant to provide time for shopping (with recommendations, as required) or for independent returns to favorite sites (the Hermitage will always merit another visit, for example).

Those committing to the tour will in due course receive detailed information on a variety of matters pertaining to travel in Russia and to the tour in particular, including departure and travel instructions, packing suggestions, weather predictions and clothing recommendations, advice on currency and on-site banking, health precautions, safety and security procedures, assistance with the Cyrillic alphabet (although no knowledge of Russian is in fact necessary), and a list of in-country phone numbers and other emergency contacts.

**PAYMENT AND DOCUMENTATION SCHEDULE**

*Upon deciding:* Tour registration form and deposit of $750, per participant.

*As applicable:* Airfare payment by cashier's check or money order to *Paideia Russian Tour*, or by credit card to the airline, the price depending on availability and your embarkation point and itinerary.

*By November 1:* 1) Balance of land payment plus visa fee by cashier's check or money order to *Paideia Russian Tour*: $1,904.00 (or $2,284.00, for single hotel accommodations); 2) Completed and signed visa application with passport and one passport-size photograph; and 3) Insurance application with payment by credit card or personal check to *Travelex Insurance Services*. 
READINGS AND RESOURCES

Among the best sources of practical information about Russia are *The Rough Guide to Moscow*, 4th edition (London, 2005) and *The Rough Guide to St. Petersburg*, 5th edition (London, 2004), both by Dan Richardson and both part of a series of respected handbooks for English-speaking travelers. Besides a great deal of sensible, well-informed advice, the Guides contain helpful historical summaries, maps (including subway plans), and site and neighborhood descriptions, as well as helpful overviews of the contents and arrangement of the principal museums.

As you know, Russian culture is extremely rich, with a history reaching back to the first millennium CE. The literature in English dealing with that culture and its development is accordingly voluminous, but the several works cited below, all noteworthy for their combination of scholarship and readability, are good places to begin. Because of their academic orientation, most of them have excellent bibliographies (especially Billington and Figes), should you wish to expand your study of any topic, and all of them can be used selectively or for reference, thanks to detailed indexes. But if you have time for only one book, then I would suggest either Figes's *Natasha's Dance* or Freeze's *Russia: A History*.

**General Histories**


**Cultural Histories**


1970. James A. Billington, *The Icon and the Axe: An Interpretive History of Russian Culture* (New York: Vintage Books). Begins with the founding of Kievan Rus in the ninth and tenth centuries and concludes with the Soviet Union in the twentieth, giving especially good treatment to medieval Russian culture; less lively and up-to-date than Figes but with a historical range that uncovers the links between the ancient and the modern.

**Topical Histories**


Selected Websites

City of Moscow
www.moscow-guide.ru/

Moscow Kremlin
uts.cc.utexas.edu/~powellm/kremlin.html

Tretyakov Gallery
www.tretyakovgallery.ru/english/

Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts
www.museum.ru/gmii/defengl.htm

Bolshoi Theater
www.bolshoi.ru/announces_eng.shtml

Moscow Times
www.themoscowtimes.com/

Sergiev Posad
www.musobl.divo.ru/archit_e.html

Yaroslavl
www.adm.yar.ru/eng/index.htm

Rostov the Great
www.admrostov.ru/welcome.php

City of St. Petersburg
www.spb.ru/eng/

Hermitage Museum
www.hermitagemuseum.org/

Russian Museum
www.rusmuseum.ru/eng/

Mariinsky Theater
www.mariinsky.ru/en

St. Petersburg Times
www.sptimes.ru/

Tsarskoye selo
www.alexanderpalace.org/tsarskoe/

Novgorod
www.novgorod.ru/english.php

State Department:  www.state.gov/travelandbusiness/

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:  www.cdc.gov/travel/
REGISTRATION FORM
(to be returned with your deposit)

Full Name (as in passport)

Home Address

Home Phone

Work Phone

E-mail Address

Passport Number and Exp. Date

Date of Birth

Emergency Contact (name, address, and phone number)

Preferred Departure City

Preferred Hotel Accommodation (double or single)