

# Cruise the Passage of

# Peter the Great

aboard the  
MS Krasin

featuring  
**MOSCOW**  
**UGLICH**  
**YAROSLAVL**  
**GORITSY**  
**KIZHI ISLAND AND**  
**ST. PETERSBURG**

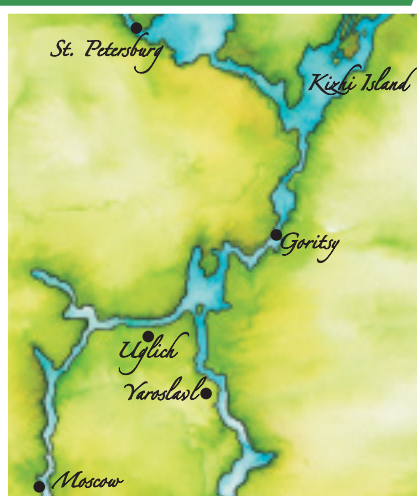


*In the early 1700s, Peter the Great pursued his vision of transforming Russia into the greatest nation in Europe at the time. Follow in his footsteps as you cruise aboard the MS Krasin. Trace scenic waterways lined with medieval villages and the charming wooden dachas, or country houses, of national heroes. In Moscow, admire the Kremlin and stroll the bustling Red Square. Delight in St. Petersburg's beauty, from the State Hermitage Museum, once the Winter Palace of the czars, to fortresses and avenues. Don't miss this chance to experience the "new" Russia firsthand.*

*Above: The Church of Our Savior on the Spilled Blood, St. Petersburg*

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Unpack just once!** Relax aboard the **MS Krasin** as you cruise through the **serene Russian countryside**, between **Moscow** and **St. Petersburg**.
- Fully explore Moscow with specially arranged visits to the **Kremlin** and **Red Square**.
- Enjoy early entrance into St. Petersburg's **State Hermitage Museum** before it opens to the public.
- Attend a **cultural performance** at the Hermitage Theater in St. Petersburg.
- Participate in **exciting seminars led by local experts** who will enhance your understanding of Mother Russia.



## INCLUDED FEATURES

### Accommodations

- **Two nights** in **Moscow** aboard the **MS Krasin**.
- **Cruise for six nights**, visiting the jewels of Russia's Golden Ring. You'll be raised and lowered through a series of locks as you sail on the **Volga, Svir and Neva** rivers. Then, cruise on **Lake Onega** and **Lake Ladoga**.
- Relax aboard the **MS Krasin**, with **three nights** to discover **St. Petersburg**.

### Activities and Events

- **All guided shore excursions** as outlined in your program itinerary.
- Enjoy a **cultural performance** at the Hermitage Theater, one of the oldest in Russia.
- Attend **Welcome and Farewell Receptions** onboard.

### Meals

- Enjoy 11 breakfasts, 10 lunches and 11 dinners **during your program**, featuring international cuisine and regional specialties with European hospitality and service.

### MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Consultation services of a dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of an **experienced AHI Travel Director** throughout the trip.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in your planning.
- **Tipping** of all guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel wallet.

### AIR PROGRAM

- Round-trip, scheduled jet service.
- Round-trip motorcoach transfers between airports and the MS Krasin, with baggage handling at the ship.
- All domestic and foreign governmental airport/departure taxes and fees.
- Automatic \$250,000 Flight Insurance for all passengers ticketed by AHI Travel, subject to policy terms.

## DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

### DAY 1 ~ DEPARTURE

Depart for **Moscow, Russia**, aboard scheduled jet service. *(Provided for Air Program participants only.)*

### DAY 2 ~ MOSCOW

Arrive at Moscow airport and transfer by motorcoach to the **MS Krasin**. *(Transfer provided for Air Program participants only.)*

### DAY 3 ~ MOSCOW

**Excursion: Red Square and Kremlin.** See Red Square and St. Basil's Cathedral, considered to be the symbol of Russia. Enjoy some freetime before a visit the Kremlin, the seat of Russia's government.

### DAY 4 ~ MOSCOW/CRUISING

**Excursion: State Tretyakov Gallery.** See the State Tretyakov Gallery, housing some of the finest Russian art in the world. This afternoon depart Moscow and sail along the Volga River. **Local Flavor:** Tonight, attend a *Welcome Reception* aboard ship.

### DAY 5 ~ UGLICH

**Excursion: Uglich.** Enjoy the tranquil scenery of the Volga River as you cruise towards Uglich. During a walking tour, see the grounds of the Old Kremlin; the Church of St. Dimitry on the Blood; and the 18th-century Transfiguration Cathedral.

### DAY 6 ~ YAROSLAVL

**Excursion: Yaroslavl.** Visit the Monastery of the Transfiguration of the Savior. Founded in the 12th century, it is one of Russia's oldest monasteries on the upper Volga River. Continue on to the spectacular onion-domed Church of Elijah the Prophet, known for its excellent frescoes.

### DAY 7 ~ GORITSY

**Excursion: Goritsy.** This ancient Russian village was formerly closed to western visitors. Now, discover its treasures, such as the Kirill-Belosersk Monastery. Then, enjoy guided visits to a local food market and private home.

### DAY 8 ~ KIZHI ISLAND

**Excursion: Kizhi Island.** The island of Kizhi on Lake Onega is an outdoor museum of 18th-century wooden architecture. The familiar onion-shaped domes of its churches were constructed without nails, and are

a tribute to the skill of Russian craftsmen. The Church of the Transformation, with 22 onion domes, is considered one of Russia's most architecturally splendid churches.

### DAY 9 ~ MANDROGI

During a relaxing day of sailing, appreciate the beauty of the Neva and Svir Rivers and Lakes Ladoga and Onega. **Excursion: Mandrogi.** At midday, stop in Mandrogi, a small village that offers a close-up view of wooden *dachas* and enjoy a barbeque lunch.

### DAY 10 ~ ST. PETERSBURG

**Excursion: St. Petersburg City Tour.** Upon arrival in St. Petersburg, take a tour featuring St. Isaac's Cathedral and the *The Bronze Horseman* statue. Become acquainted with historic places which have made St. Petersburg such a dazzling capital. This evening, enjoy a performance at the Hermitage Theater.

### DAY 11 ~ ST. PETERSBURG

**Excursion: Opulent Palaces.** Visit Petrodvorets this morning. The palace of Peter the Great is known for its gardens and fountains. Continue to Catherine's Palace, a Russian baroque masterpiece, to see the famed Amber room full of intricate amber panels.

### DAY 12 ~ ST. PETERSBURG

**Excursion: The Hermitage.** Visit the State Hermitage Museum. A part of the Winter Palace built largely by Catherine the Great, it is home to one of the world's most extensive collections of art.

**Independent Exploration:** The afternoon in St. Petersburg is at leisure for plans of your own design. Tonight, enjoy a *Farewell Reception*.

### DAY 13 ~ RETURN

After breakfast, transfer to St. Petersburg airport for return flight(s) to North America. *(Provided for Air Program participants only.)*

*NOTE: This cruise may operate in the opposite direction. Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Many excursions on this program involve an element of walking, as some of the finest attractions on this program are located in areas not accessible by motorcoach.*

## ACCOMMODATIONS



### MS KRASIN

Your home during your cruise of Russia's waterways is the *MS Krasin*. Renovated in 2009, it boasts numerous amenities designed to ensure your comfort. From the delicious cuisine in the restaurant to the friendly hospitality of the ship's staff, your experience will offer a level of service and luxury the czars would have envied! Enjoy performances in the music salon, search for that perfect memento at the souvenir kiosk or relax on deck and admire the lovely countryside as you sail along. Each evening, return to the comfort of your tastefully appointed cabin—a relaxing end to an exciting day!



### EXCLUSIVE CRUISE EXTRAS

#### *This AHI Cruise features:*

- Deluxe river cruise ships providing all outward-facing accommodations and friendly, personalized service.
- Pleasant dining aboard ship, featuring special extras such as morning coffee, afternoon tea, international cuisine and expertly prepared regional specialties.
- Expert local guides leading thoughtfully designed excursions to enrich your experience of the area.
- A comprehensive, illustrated guide book created exclusively for your program describing, kilometer-by-kilometer, the storied culture and history of the towns, villages and landmarks along the river.
- Speaker's Corner program featuring local lecturers who share their insights with you for a unique, in-depth learning experience.



AHI Travel  
6400 Shafer Court  
Rosemont, IL 60018

