



LIFE Travels River Cruise: Russian Gems

Departing May 08, 2011

*Here are some highlights of our adventure on the maiden voyage of the
AMAKATARINA*

DAY 1, Depart on an overnight flight to Moscow, Russia.

DAY 2, Arrive in **Moscow** and board the ship. Relax aboard or explore the city before meeting your fellow travelers at the Welcome Cocktail Reception.

DAY 3, Moscow: Tour Russia's beautiful capital city, including Red Square and the Tretyakov Art Museum. Enjoy lunch as you cruise the Moscow River. Tonight, you can enjoy an optional visit to the Moscow Circus.

DAY 4, Moscow: Today, your tour within the walls of the Kremlin introduces you to the former royal residence of the Czars and main center of the Russian Orthodox faith. You will also visit Russia's oldest museum, the Armory. Later, tour the Moscow metro and visit the famous Arbat Street. Tonight, enjoy the optional Moscow by Night.



DAY 5, Uglich: Located on the banks of the Volga, Uglich was founded by merchants in 1148. Rich in history, Uglich is home to some of Russia's most beautiful churches and cathedrals, and you'll see a sampling during your city tour. You'll visit the home of a local Russian family, learning about everyday life in Uglich, as you enjoy a home-cooked meal and sample Russian hospitality first-hand.

DAY 6, Yaroslavl: Founded in 1010 by Prince Yaroslav the Wise, it is one of Russia's oldest cities, tracing its roots back to the Vikings. Explore the city's history through its architecture.

DAY 7, Goritsy: Goritsy is a peaceful farming town and a typical Russian village. The tour includes the Monastery of St. Cyril on the White Lake and the Museum of Icons.

DAY 8, Kizhi: Kizhi is an island at the north end of Lake Onega and home to some of the most amazing wooden architecture in Russia, including the Church of Intercession, its towering walls and 22 domes, all built without the use of a single nail.

DAY 9, Svirstroy: Svirstroy is 100 miles from St. Petersburg with a population of only 1000. Enjoy some free time to stroll around this unspoiled Russian village and browse through the irresistible handmade trinkets. This is the best place to do souvenir shopping before reaching St. Petersburg.

DAY 10, St. Petersburg: A former Russian capital, this city rivals Paris or Venice for its romantic image. Dating from the beginning of the 18th-century, it was built to the exact specifications ordered by Peter the Great. The city is home to many museums, galleries, palaces, impressive squares and streets. Your morning sightseeing tour shows you Nevsky Prospect, Palace Square, St. Isaacs Cathedral and the cruiser Aurora. After lunch, tour the Hermitage museum, one of the largest & most impressive art museums in the world.

DAY 11, St. Petersburg: This morning, stroll along one of the many picturesque canals or join the optional excursion to Pushkin and visit the Palace of Catherine the Great. Absorb the atmosphere of St. Petersburg's vibrant cultural life. This evening, you are our guest at a Ballet performance at the Hermitage Theatre, the former private theatre of the Czars.

DAY 12, St. Petersburg: Today, tour St. Petersburg's famous and spectacular Peterhof Palace, a vast estate intended to rival the famous gardens of Versailles. You will enjoy a hydrofoil journey either to or from the Palace.



DAY 13, St. Petersburg: Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

AMAKATARINA is the most luxurious ship ever built for Russian rivers. The ship will carry 212 guests in 106 staterooms, seventy-six of which feature balconies. On average, Amakatarina's staterooms are 43% larger than those of other companies. All staterooms feature a bathroom with a separate shower area, which is unusual for Russian ships. She offers a great array of public rooms. All AMA ships are decorated with panache and elegance.

Price depends on cabin category, starting at: \$3135.00 US + \$187.00 US port fees

These are special group rates for the LIFE Institute Ryerson University. All guests must be members of LIFE Institute – Cost \$75.00 CDN per person, if not a member.

Single Supplement 50%

Booking deposit: \$400.00 US per person

The cruise price includes:

Accommodation in an outside stateroom, all meals onboard (early-riser coffee, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner), unlimited red or white wine or juice with dinner, bottled water in your cabin, cocktail reception & welcome dinner, home visit and meal with Russian family in Uglich, all-inclusive daily sightseeing programs as outlined in the itinerary, ballet performance at the Hermitage Theater, guest lectures on Russian history, culture, art, politics and economy, onboard music performances and Russian language classes, physician onboard, all English language onboard, non-smoking environment (except Sun Deck), and all local taxes.

Additional Expenses: Optional shore excursions (details at meeting), gratuities (optional – recommended \$200 US), laundry (if needed), optional wine and cocktails, travel insurance (pricing subject to age).

Clients are responsible for obtaining Russian visas (current cost \$170 CDN). AMA Waterways and Rosedale Cruiseshipcenters will assist with the process, but the Russian government expects applications to come directly from the traveler.

Group flight prices: These will be available at the information meeting on August 03, 2011. (See below.)

Air Fare will be approximately \$1,200 – 1,400.00.

Guests may make their own flight arrangements to take advantage of points programmes or discounts.

Custom flight arrangements may also be made through Rosedale Cruiseshipcenters.

All flights will be met by a representative of Life Travels, and transfers to the ship will be arranged.

Please join us for an information session on August 03, 2010.

LOCATION: TBA - Toronto

2:30 PM - Refreshments courtesy of AMA Waterways.

2:45 PM - Hear more about this Russian Gems adventure, and meet your Canadian guide and host for the trip.

The session will also include information on forthcoming LIFE courses on Russia.

To give us an idea of numbers, please RSVP.

**To book or for further information please contact:
416-962-7447 or 1 866 355-7447 or info@therivercruiser.com**