

*Enjoy European standards
aboard this award-winning,
luxurious river cruise line*



Cruise the Waterways of
RUSSIA

St. Petersburg

Aboard River Victoria

Moscow

SPONSORED BY



**Commonwealth
Club Travel**

SEPTEMBER 26-OCTOBER 9, 2012

**(415) 597-6720 or (800) 933-7548
www.commonwealthclub.org/travel**



Program Highlights

- Unpack just once and let **River Victoria** transport you to Russia's great sites.
- Gain greater insight into "Mother Russia" with **onboard lectures** conducted by a resident historian.
- Embrace enchanting **St. Petersburg** and take your seat at the magnificent Alexandrinsky Theater, the oldest Russian national theater.
- Receive **early entrance** to the **Hermitage Museum**, one of the world's largest and most valuable collections of fine art.
- Admire Russian architecture in **Uglich** and **Yaroslavl**, two cities on the Golden Ring, an area with deep-rooted traditions.
- Make the most of **Moscow** with **specially arranged visits** to the **Kremlin**, the **Armory Museum**, **Red Square**, plus many more landmarks and time to explore on your own.

Discover the soul of Russia as you cruise its imperial waterways on the elegant **River Victoria**, an intimate boutique river cruiser. Your adventure begins in sophisticated St. Petersburg, the cultural heart of Russia. Then follow in the wake of Peter the Great, the larger-than-life czar who sailed along the Volga approximately 300 years ago on a quest to modernize his country and make it an equal among the great European powers of the day. Cruise along the Neva, Svir and Volga rivers, where medieval villages, wooden dachas and onion-domed churches unfold along pastoral banks. Finally, feel the enchantment of Moscow, Russia's spiritual and political epicenter. Linger in majestic Red Square, explore the Kremlin and rub shoulders with locals in this prosperous capital city.



Above: St. Basil's Cathedral in Red Square, Moscow
Right: Samson fountain



Dear Club Traveler,

Embark on a cultural odyssey, from St. Petersburg, Russia's cultural capital that has retained its Old World elegance, to prosperous Moscow, an ancient city brimming with world-famous landmarks and newfound creativity. Onboard the luxurious **River Victoria**, you will join a group of like-minded travelers as you explore fascinating imperial waterways and some of Russia's most beautiful cities.

This specially designed program offers you preferred access to popular attractions and a unique educational program that will deepen your understanding of this fascinating country.

Throughout your journey, you'll benefit from the value and convenience of group travel. A dedicated team of travel specialists will assist you with all your needs before departure and help you customize your trip with extensions and special arrangements, allowing you to make the most of your adventure.

Don't miss this opportunity to see the wonders of Russia. We will be joined by several other educational groups on this journey. This program is likely to sell out early, so make your reservation today!

Best travel regards,

Kristina Nemeth
Director of Club Travel

For further details, please contact the Club's travel desk at (415) 597-6720 or (800) 933-7548, or email us at travel@commonwealthclub.org.

"Moscow is ... next to Constantinople, the earthly paradise of the sight-seer."

~ Captain Harry de Windt,
British explorer and author,
1856-1933, "From Peking to
Calais by Land," 1889

"Everything [in St. Petersburg] is on a vast and colossal scale, resembling that of the empire itself."

~ Sir Nathaniel William,
Wraxall, English author,
1751-1831,
"A Tour Round the Baltic," 1775

"All civilizations are to some extent the product of geographical factors, but history provides no clearer example of the profound influence of geography upon a culture than in the historical development of the Russian people."

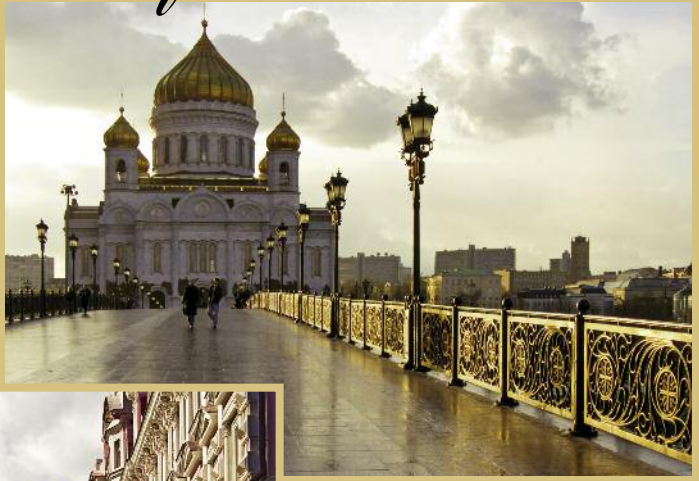
~ George Vernadsky,
Russian-American historian,
1887-1973,
"A History of Russia," 1969

Cruise the heart of Russia

Right: Christ the Redeemer Church,
Moscow

Below: Arbat Street in the historic center
of Moscow

Lower right: Russian
folk dancers



Moscow

Moscow is a living monument to more than 800 years of Russian history and culture. Come inside the red brick walls of the Kremlin, a 12th-century self-contained city spanning nearly 70 acres. Witness stunning palaces and golden cathedrals, and marvel at the staggering collection of czarist treasures in the Armory Chamber, including thrones, carriages and Fabergé eggs. Visit Red Square, home of the onion-domed St. Basil's Cathedral, and travel the route of czars along Tverskaya Street. Formerly known as Gorky Street, Moscow's lively grand avenue is lined with wrought-iron street lamps, neon signs and historic homes of former dignitaries.

Right: Tsar Bell, The Kremlin,
Moscow



UNESCO

The historic center and St. Petersburg, Kizhi Pogost, the historic center of Yaroslavl, the Kremlin and Red Square in Moscow are UNESCO World Heritage sites featured in this program. These sites were designated based on their universal scenic, historic, artistic or scientific value.

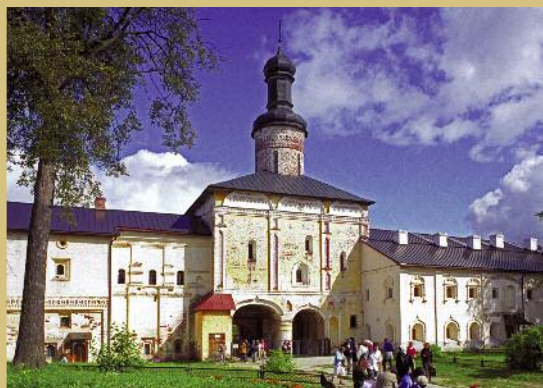




Left: Church of the Transfiguration, Kizhi Island

Lower left: Frescoes, Church of Elijah the Prophet, Yaroslavl

Below: Kirill-Belosersk Monastery, Goritsy



Goritsy

The peaceful farming community of Goritsy, once closed to Western visitors, is a charming example of rural Russian life. From Goritsy, journey to the Kirill-Belosersk Monastery, founded in the 14th century. Its fortress-like edifice and picturesque lake setting conceal its impressive interior and artifact-filled museum.

Kizhi Island

The beautiful blue waters of Lake Onega surround Kizhi Island, where fantastic structures create a fairy-tale atmosphere. The island's open-air museum reveals 18th- and 19th-century homes and churches. Each building stands in testimony to the craftsmanship and simplicity of wooden architecture built without the use of nails.

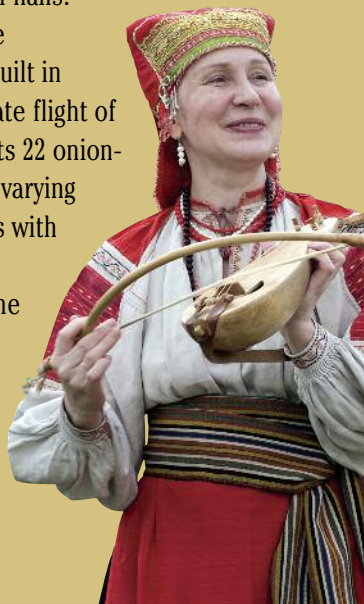
The Church of the Transfiguration, built in 1714, is the ultimate flight of the imagination; its 22 onion-shaped domes of varying sizes change hues with the passing sun. Construction of the domes required more than 30,000 aspen shingles.

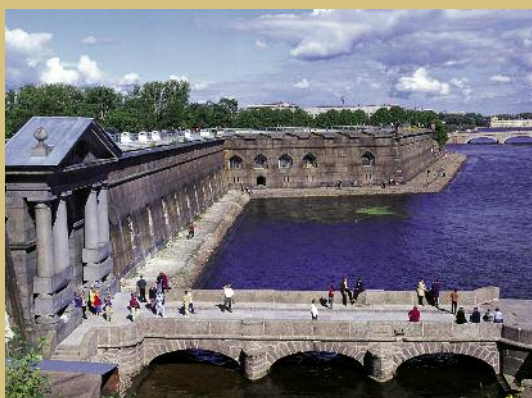
Uglich

This tranquil town, brimming with historic architecture, originated in the 10th century and is one of the oldest on the upper Volga River. Of special interest is the poignant church of St. Demetrios. Covered with brightly colored tiles and crowned with sky-blue domes, this church is built on the site of the tragic death of Ivan the Terrible's son, Dimitry. Located nearby is the five-domed Transfiguration Cathedral, now a part of the Uglich Museum of History and Art. Uglich is also home to the small, charming Prince's Palace, which dates to the 15th century.

Yaroslavl

Stretching for 18 miles along both banks of the Volga River, Yaroslavl is an important port that was founded in the 11th century by Prince Yaroslav the Wise. The highlight of Yaroslavl is its magnificent 12th-century Spassky Monastery. This vast complex of majestic cathedrals, an elegant rotunda, towers and remnants of a trading center played a prominent role in the political and economic development of the city and acted as a cultural touchstone in the Russian state.





St. Petersburg

Majestic, gold-domed cathedrals and serene, canal-crossed streets combine to make St. Petersburg one of the most beautiful cities in the world. It was founded by Peter the Great more than 300 years ago as a link to Western Europe and is now one of the greatest cultural centers in Russia. The prestigious State Hermitage Museum, the city's most famous landmark, contains nearly 3 million works of art. Walk along Nevsky Prospekt, with its shops and churches, and see the Admiralty, one of St. Petersburg's first buildings. At the

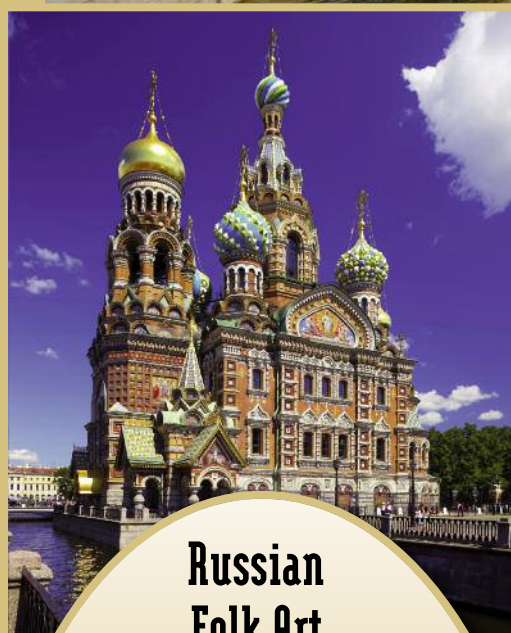
fork of the Neva River, admire the impressive Peter and Paul Fortress, whose construction marked the founding of the city in 1703. See the majestic St. Isaac's Cathedral, its gleaming dome is visible for miles. Explore Catherine's Palace, featuring dazzling blue, white and gold baroque façade. Contained within is the Palace's fabled Amber Room, now fully recreated.

Left: Musician in traditional Russian folk costume





Griboedova Canal, St. Petersburg



Russian Folk Art

Matryoshka, perhaps the most popular Russian souvenir, is an intricately decorated series of nested wooden dolls. As a general rule, matryoshkas range from two to 24 dolls in a set, but some of the most rare and intricate sets can include up to 60 individual dolls. The smallest dolls can be as tiny as a fingernail. Craftsmen choose unblemished wood from birch, larch and linden trees to make the dolls. After the dolls are carved, they are passed to the painter who “dresses them” in bright garments and colorful motifs of traditional Russian legends and fairy tales.



Above left: Church of the Spilled Blood, St. Petersburg



AHI River Cruises feature:

- **First-class river cruise ships** providing all outward-facing accommodations; friendly, personalized service; and exclusively designed sailing itineraries.
- **Pleasant dining aboard ship** featuring one seating, local wines and expertly prepared specialties of the region.
- **Expert local guides** leading thoughtfully designed excursions to enrich your experience of the area.
- **A comprehensive, illustrated guide book** created exclusively for your program and describing the storied culture and history of the towns, villages and sites.
- **Speaker's Corner program** showcasing local lecturers who share their insights with you for a unique, in-depth learning experience.

Above: Sculpture Hall, State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg



RIVER VICTORIA

The elegant River Victoria invites you to experience the best of Russia as you cruise imperial waterways, including the Neva, Svir and Volga rivers. Inaugurated in 2011 as one of Uniworld's newest river cruisers, River Victoria offers its guests the utmost in quality. Each stateroom offers a view of the passing countryside and a host of amenities to enhance your experience. You'll be surrounded by style and elegance, and on a ship with a maximum capacity of 206 guests, you'll enjoy an intimate atmosphere.



Soak up the sights of Russia from a lounge chair on River Victoria's sun deck, unwind in the library or indulge in a pampering massage onboard. To enhance your experience, River Victoria offers an exceptional gastronomic experience including a wine program developed by a renowned sommelier and meals created by a professional culinary team using fresh ingredients, many of which are brought onboard from local markets.

Each evening, relax in the comfort of your luxuriously appointed stateroom. Hotel beds, flat-screen TVs with satellite programming, marble bathrooms with deluxe amenities provide all the comforts of home.

River Victoria is part of the deluxe Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection. Discriminating readers of both Condé Nast Traveler and Travel + Leisure magazines have consistently named Uniworld one of the best river cruise lines in the world.



Reserve your trip to Russia today!

For Office Use Only: B #: _____ Date: _____
 Trip #: 2-20417W PSR: _____

Send to: Commonwealth Club Travel
 595 Market Street
 2nd Floor
 San Francisco, CA 94105

Please contact the Commonwealth Club of California at (415) 597-6720 or (800) 933-7548, or fax (415) 597-6729, or travel@commonwealthclub.org with questions regarding this tour.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

(1) _____
 Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

(2) _____
 Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Home: (_____) _____

Office: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):

(1) _____

(2) _____

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:
Cruise Program

- I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.
- Please call me/us to discuss my/our air options.

Cabin category desired: 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

- I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$1,295 (limited availability).
- I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Cruise and Air Program

- I/we reserve the Land Program and request the Air Program to St. Petersburg, Russia, and from Moscow to depart from:

Departure City

- Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

*Please note: Air prices will be sent to you with your Reservation Confirmation and air schedule sent at 90 days before departure. International flight arrangements can be canceled with **no obligation up to 75 days before departure.***

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by July 13, 2012 (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard or Visa. Make checks payable to AHI International.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 per person required) to reserve _____ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI International**.
- Charge my deposit to: MasterCard Visa Expires _____/_____/_____

Card # _____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI International constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the Cancellation terms.

Need pre- or post-trip assistance?

If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements before and/or after this program, please contact **AHI Travel at 800-323-7373 no later than 60 days prior to departure** and they will be happy to assist you with your reservations. *A nonrefundable service fee and additional air/land charges based on reservations apply.*

NOT INCLUDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal and ship gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature, airport transfer costs for those not participating on AHI's Air Program.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL-The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

CANCELLATION-In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$250 per person cancellation fee. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75 days to 30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to the Commonwealth Club of California.

BAGGAGE-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS - On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

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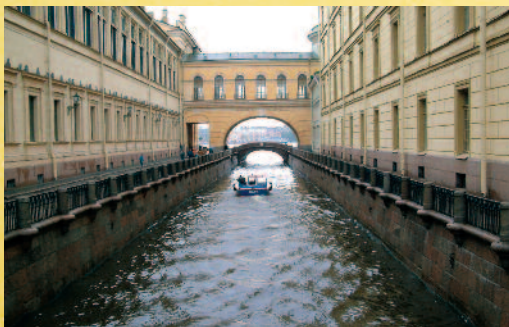
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PARTICIPATING AIRLINES-all IATA and ARC member carriers.

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Winter Canal,
one of the most
poetic corners of
the "Old St.
Petersburg"



CRUISE PROGRAM

September 27-October 9, 2012

Category-Deck	Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price
6-Omega (161 sq.ft.)	\$3,745	\$250	\$3,495*
5-Moskva (Fwd/Aft) (135 sq.ft.)	\$4,245	\$250	\$3,995*
4-Moskva (Midship) (135 sq.ft.)	\$4,645	\$250	\$4,395*
3-Neva (Fwd) (210 sq.ft.)	\$5,245	\$250	\$4,995*
2-Neva (Midship) (210 sq.ft.)	\$5,545	\$250	\$5,295*
1-Volga (210 sq.ft.)	\$5,745	\$250	\$5,495*
Deluxe Suite (269 sq.ft.)	\$5,845	\$250	\$5,595*
Junior Suite (334 sq.ft.)	\$6,645	\$250	\$6,395*
Presidential Suite (409 sq.ft.)	\$7,645	\$250	\$7,395*

All suites and Volga and Neva deck cabins feature French doors and balconies. Moskva deck cabins feature large windows. Omega deck cabins feature portholes.

***Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.
VAT and Port Tax supplement is an additional \$216 per person.**

All prices quoted are in USD, per person,
based on double occupancy (unless otherwise stated).

Single accommodations are an additional \$1,295 (limited availability).

AIR PROGRAM

September 26-October 9, 2012

Take advantage of AHI Travel's exclusive Group Air Program, which provides the benefit of specially negotiated rates on major commercial airlines worldwide. Participants enjoy advanced seat assignments on most airlines; guaranteed arrival and departure transfers with baggage handling; a price guarantee that covers airfare, fuel surcharges and all taxes; and many other benefits.

AHI can also make flight arrangements for passengers who wish to fly independent of the Group Air Program.

All passengers who book their flights through AHI automatically receive flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms. Please indicate how you would like us to handle your air on the Reservation Form or call us to discuss your flight options. Special business-class upgrades are available on select international flights.

AHI Travel's exclusive Air Program provides special advantages for travelers who are flying on our designated group flights.

ITINERARY

Day 1	Depart Gateway City
Day 2	St. Petersburg, Russia/ Embark River Victoria
Day 3	St. Petersburg
Day 4	St. Petersburg
Day 5	St. Petersburg
Day 6	Mandrogi
Day 7	Kizhi Island
Day 8	Goritsy
Day 9	Yaroslavl
Day 10	Uglich
Day 11	Moscow
Day 12	Moscow
Day 13	Moscow
Day 14	Disembark ship/ Return to Gateway City

NOTE: This itinerary schedule may change due to local conditions. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking as some of the finest attractions are located in areas not closely accessible by motor coach.



Old-style Public Clock
under the General Army Staff Building Arch,
St. Petersburg

INCLUDED FEATURES

First, Three Nights in St. Petersburg

- Indulge in the comforts of your “floating boutique hotel,” **River Victoria**.
- Discover the city’s magnificent architecture, and see Peter and Paul Fortress, the Admiralty and St. Isaac’s Cathedral.
- Explore the Amber Room in the baroque Catherine’s Palace.
- View the riches of the State Hermitage Museum, and enjoy early access before the museum opens to the public.
- Attend a cultural performance at the historic Alexandrinsky Theater.
- Celebrate with fellow travelers at a festive **Captain’s Welcome Dinner**.

Next, the Imperial Waterways of Russia

- **Cruise for six nights** and witness scenic beauty as you sail on the Neva, Svir and Volga rivers and cruise Lake Ladoga and Lake Onega.
- Go ashore in Mandrogi for a traditional Russian barbecue lunch and folklore show.
- Marvel at the magnificent wooden architecture on the picturesque Lake Onega island of Kizhi.
- Visit two of the jewels of Russia’s Golden Ring, Uglich and Yaroslavl, in the cultural heart of Russia.

Finally, Three Nights in Moscow

- Explore Moscow, Russia’s fascinating capital, on a breathtaking panoramic tour, from Red Square and St. Basil’s Cathedral, to bustling Tverskaya Street, the Bolshoi Theatre and more.
- Visit the Kremlin and see Fabergé eggs, military armor and more in the Armory Chamber, Moscow’s greatest museum.
- Attend a **Farewell Party** aboard the ship

Many Included Features

- **An extensive meal program** including 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches and 12 dinners, plus appropriate in-flight meals.
- **Personal VOX listening devices** allow you to hear every word from your expert English-speaking guides.
- Services of an friendly, professional **Travel Director** throughout your journey.
- Consultation services of a **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- **Tipping** of excursion guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist you in planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.





Top to bottom:

Entrance to Palace Square, St. Petersburg

St. Basil's Cathedral, Moscow

Enjoy scenery from the deck of the River Victoria

Letter page photo:

Cafe, GUM Department Store, Moscow

Cover photo:

Kremlin, Moscow

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A word about your Tour Operator

AHI Travel is the premier operator of deluxe travel programs sponsored by educational institutions. Their experienced, professional staff has offered the highest level of service in **innovative travel programs since 1962.**

In AHI Travel's care, you can rely on:

- **An exceptional travel value.** It would be impossible for an independent traveler to arrange all these unique experiences, inclusions and services at a comparable price.
- **Unique access to local sites.** Take advantage of their 50 years of travel experience to gain preferred entrance to popular sites and to uncover the region's hidden treasures.
- **Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.** Benefit from the expertise of local guides who possess authoritative knowledge of the region and offer personal insight into the local culture.
- **Flexibility and customization.** Free time during the trip allows you to pursue your own interests. They will also help you tailor your dream trip with add-ons and extensions.
- **Safety and security.** In a country where you might not know the language or culture, their professional staff is on hand to ease your way and get you any help you need.



**Please call or refer to our
website for the most current
program information,
discounts and pricing.**

www.commonwealthclub.org/travel