Waterways of Russia
St. Petersburg • Moscow
Cruising aboard the Exclusively Chartered, Deluxe Volga Dream
August 2 to 13, 2019

dukealumnitravels.com
Dear Duke Alumni and Friends:

Experience the timeless pageantry and traditional folkways of Russia, revealed along the scenic rivers, lakes and canals that link St. Petersburg with Moscow. Between these grand cultural capitals lies a countryside seemingly untouched by the modern age. Golden-domed churches rise up from the early morning mist, quaint wooden villages and old-world farms cover the meadowed landscape and the light of lingering summer evenings reflects the banks of Russia’s inland waterways.

Cruise aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe Volga Dream, the premier small ship on Russia’s waterways, accommodating only 90 guests in elegant, river-view Suites and Staterooms. The expert, English-speaking staff ensure you will enjoy an intimate atmosphere, personalized service and fine cuisine throughout your cruise.

Explore the preeminent artistic, historical and architectural treasures of classical Russian culture and several “Golden Ring” cities. Visit splendid St. Petersburg—Russia’s “window on the West” and its cultural capital—the legacy of the most visionary of tsars, Peter the Great. Then, cruise through the heart of Russia, where daily life unfolds at a generations-old measured pace and villagers dwell in traditional wooden cottages to preserve the time-honored customs of their ancestors. Characteristic onion-domed churches and fortified monasteries testify to the abiding faith of the Russian people. Conclude with one night in the fabled city of Moscow, the political and commercial capital of the world’s largest country.

As our Duke group grows in size, a Duke host will join the trip to bring a uniquely Duke perspective to the tour. This unique travel program features the best ship in Russia and a thoughtfully crafted, comprehensive itinerary with opportunities to experience nine UNESCO World Heritage sites. This popular program is an excellent value—reserve your space today while Early Booking Savings are still available.

Forever Duke,

Beth Ray-Schroeder ’83
Director, Duke Alumni Travels
U.S.
Friday, August 2
Depart the U.S.

St. Petersburg, Russia
Saturday, August 3
Arrive in regal St. Petersburg, Peter the Great’s elegant urban achievement and Russia’s cultural capital, and transfer to the centrally located, Five-Star BELMOND GRAND HOTEL EUROPE. This evening, attend the Welcome Reception in the hotel.

St. Petersburg
Sunday, August 4
This morning, by specially reserved early entrance, visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated State Hermitage Museum, the former tsarist palace of Catherine the Great and among the largest and most respected museums in the world. Its prestigious collections are rivaled only by the museum’s lavish interior. Then, tour the new halls of the State Hermitage Museum’s General Staff Building to view priceless 19th- and 20th-century French Impressionist and Post-Impressionist works, including 74 masterpieces presumed “lost” in a storeroom during World War II.

This evening, choose to attend an optional Russian ballet performance (schedule to be determined).

St. Petersburg
Monday, August 5
Explore the city’s UNESCO World Heritage-designated historic center, where legendary landmarks are scattered across more than 30 islands and linked by 342 bridges. See exquisite examples of Russian Baroque and neoclassical architecture along the main thoroughfare, Nevsky Prospekt; the ornate Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood (Church of the Resurrection of Christ), built on Emperor Alexander II’s assassination site; and the iconic golden spire of the Admiralty, to admire its dazzling interior of malachite and lapis lazuli. Tour St. Petersburg’s oldest edifice, the Peter and Paul Fortress, built in 1703 to guard the country’s only outlet to the Baltic Sea.

Later, visit the imperial compound of Pushkin and the elaborate Rococo Catherine Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site. See the jewel-encrusted Amber Room, laden with six tons of solid amber, deftly carved and framed in gold leaf and said to be the “Eighth Wonder of the World.” Stripped and confiscated by the Nazis in 1941, it was meticulously reconstructed over 25 years to honor St. Petersburg’s 300th anniversary. This evening, you may choose to attend an optional Russian folklore performance in Nicholas Palace (schedule to be determined).

St. Petersburg
Tuesday, August 6
Visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated site of Petrodvorets, commissioned by

Photo this page: Admire the architecture of Red Square in Moscow, including the Kremlin and St. Basil’s Cathedral.

Cover photo: Stroll along the majestic Grand Cascade at Petrodvorets, a UNESCO World Heritage site often referred to as the “Russian Versailles.”
Peter the Great to rival Versailles, and tour the Grand Palace and the elaborately landscaped grounds, encompassing two centuries of imperial style, executed to perfection; enjoy lunch in the Lower Park.

Embark the deluxe, small ship Volga Dream this afternoon and attend the Captain’s Welcome Reception.

Neva River/Lake Ladoga/ Svir River/Svirstroy
Wednesday, August 7
Admire the passing wilderness of serene meadows, virgin pine and birch forests lining the banks of the mighty Neva River along the shores of Lake Ladoga, Europe’s largest lake. This afternoon, call at charming Svirstroy, a riverside village evoking a pastoral way of life. See the historic Lodeynoe Pole, where Peter the Great established the Olonets Shipyard, birthplace of the Baltic Fleet. Visit the home of a local villager and enjoy tea and Russian pies before continuing along the gleaming Svir River between Lake Ladoga and Lake Onega.

Lake Onega/Kizhi Island
Thursday, August 8
Early this morning, be on deck for the unforgettable approach to Kizhi Island, then tour the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Kizhi Pogost, a remarkable open-air museum of 18th-century Karelian and north Russian wooden architecture. Admire the Church of the Transfiguration, considered the world’s tallest entirely wooden building and an architectural masterpiece, featuring 22 cupolas built completely of wood and without a single nail.

Cruise scenic Lake Onega, with over 1600 small islands, in view of the beautifully untouched Karelian countryside, home to both Finns and Russians.

Lake Beloye/Goritsy/ Sheksna River
Friday, August 9
Along the shores of Lake Beloye, admire rural communities continuing the long-standing traditions of Old Russia. From tranquil Goritsy, transfer to the Kirillo-Belozersky Monastery, founded in 1397, and see its collection of paintings, early printed books and pictorial embroidery. It is said that Vasily III prayed here for an heir, and soon after, his wife Elena gave birth to the future Ivan the Terrible, Russia’s first tsar.

Catch glimpses of a bygone era along the Sheksna River as you pass by rustic family
farms and quaint dachas, traditional Russian wooden cottages.

This evening, enjoy a dinner of Russian delicacies followed by a specially arranged sampling of Russian vodkas.

Lake Rybinskoye / Volga River / Yaroslavl
Saturday, August 10
Cruise Lake Rybinskoye, surrounded by scenic wilderness. Dock in Yaroslavl, the oldest city on the Volga River and one of the “Golden Ring” of fortified 11th- to 15th-century cities and villages built to encircle Moscow. This UNESCO World Heritage site is renowned for its 17th-century stone churches crowned with painted onion domes and soaring turrets.

Stroll along the river to the exquisite Church of Elijah the Prophet, an architectural masterpiece in the heart of the Old Town and filled with well-preserved frescoes. See the elegant Monastery of the Transfiguration, founded in the 12th century.

Uglich / Volga River
Sunday, August 11
Arrive in the “Golden Ring” city of Uglich and walk to the 17th-century Church of Prince Dimitri-on-the-Blood, built on the site where Ivan the Terrible’s young son met his tragic demise. Admire its cluster of red turrets capped with shimmering blue onion domes and the interior’s elegant frescoes. See the stately five-domed Cathedral of the Transfiguration, built along the Volga River in 1713.

This afternoon, cruise the great Volga River, the main artery of the Russian heartland for over a millennium, and into the Moscow Canal, which provides Moscow access to the White, Baltic, Caspian, Azov and Black Seas.

Attend the Captain’s Farewell Reception on board the ship this evening.

Moscow
Monday, August 12
Arrive in Russia’s illustrious capital city, which has embodied the nation’s heart and soul for over 850 years. Disembark the ship for a panoramic tour of Moscow featuring the Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer, the monument of Peter the Great, the renowned Bolshoi Theatre and expansive views of the city from University Square.

Explore Moscow’s cultural and historical treasures beginning with a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Kremlin, the imposing “Citadel of the Tsars.” See magisterial Red Square, a UNESCO World Heritage site where both Romanov tsars and Soviet commissars have flexed their power, and admire the grandeur of 16th-century St. Basil’s Cathedral, one of the country’s most striking Orthodox monuments.

Check into the Five-Star MARriott ROYAL AURORA HOTEL and enjoy dinner in the hotel this evening.

Moscow / U.S.
Tuesday, August 13
Continue on the Iconic Moscow Post-Program Option, or transfer to the airport for your flight to the U.S.
EXCLUSIVELY CHARTERED, DELUXE MS VOLGA DREAM

The deluxe VOLGA DREAM sets the standard for ships cruising the waterways of Russia. Its meticulous design, elegant appointments and richly deserved reputation for impeccable service provide you with an unprecedented level of comfort on Russia’s waterways.

Each Suite and Stateroom features a wood- and marble-accented private bathroom, one queen bed, one double bed or two twin beds, individual climate control, telephone, satellite television, minibar, safe, radio and plush robes.

Onboard chefs specialize in the preparation of savory continental and local Russian cuisine for breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner. Complimentary house wine and soft drinks are included with lunch and dinner. Coffee and tea are available 24 hours a day. You will also experience an authentic Russian tea ceremony on board.

While cruising Russia’s tranquil rivers and lakes, you may enjoy the ship’s inviting lounge offering live music, a bar with panoramic windows; a library with Internet access; or the full-length Sun Deck, which recreates the ambiance of an oceangoing yacht with teak planking and deck chairs. The ship also has a boutique, fitness room, sauna and laundry service. There is a doctor on board.

Iconic Moscow Post-Program Option

Further explore the jewels of Russia’s capital and delve deep into its Cold War and pre-revolutionary past.

Ride the Moscow Metro, where train stations are museums in their own right. Tour the fascinating Cold War Museum at the Bunker-42 on Taganka, a former secret military complex. Visit the acclaimed State Tretyakov Gallery; the Armoury Museum—the oldest museum in Russia—to see the world’s largest collection of Imperial Fabergé eggs; and the Tolstoy House Museum, where author Leo Tolstoy lived in 1882. Spend two nights in the Five-Star Marriott Royal Aurora Hotel.

The Post-Program Option and Optional Excursions are available at additional cost. Details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
Included Features

In St. Petersburg and Moscow
◆ Three nights in the centrally located, Five-Star Belmond Grand Hotel Europe in St. Petersburg.
◆ One night in the Five-Star Marriott Royal Aurora Hotel in Moscow.
◆ Breakfast each morning in the hotels.
◆ Two lunches in St. Petersburg.
◆ One dinner in the hotel in Moscow.

On Board the Exclusively Chartered, Deluxe VOLGA DREAM
◆ Six-night cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow on Russia’s legendary waterways—the Neva River, Lake Ladoga, the Svir River, Lake Onega, Lake Beloye, the Sheksna River, Lake Rybinskoye and the Volga River.
◆ Deluxe, river-view Suite or Stateroom.
◆ Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
◆ All meals aboard ship.
◆ Complimentary house wine and soft drinks included with lunch and dinner; coffee and tea available 24 hours.
◆ Specially arranged Russian vodka tasting.
◆ Exclusive traditional Russian tea ceremony.
◆ Visit to the 14th-century Kirillo-Belozersky Monastery near Goritsy.
◆ Walking tour of historic Uglich, with a visit to the Church of Prince Dimitri-on-the-Blood.

UNESCO World Heritage Site Highlights
◆ City tour of St. Petersburg, featuring tours to the impressive Peter and Paul Fortress and neoclassical St. Isaac’s Cathedral.
◆ Exclusive early entrance and guided tour of the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg.
◆ Visits to the elaborate Petrodvorets Palace and Gardens and Catherine Palace in Pushkin.
◆ Walking tour of fascinating Kizhi Pogost, an architectural masterpiece.
◆ City tour of medieval Yaroslavl.
◆ Visit to Moscow’s imposing Kremlin.
◆ Tour of Moscow’s city center to see Red Square and brightly hued St. Basil’s Cathedral.

Enhanced Travel Services
◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions.
◆ Two optional cultural performances, available at additional cost.
◆ Complimentary bottled water in your Suite or Stateroom aboard ship and on included excursions.
◆ Hospitality desk aboard ship and in the hotels.
◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
◆ Automatic $250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
Russia’s Cultural Capitals

Among the world’s prodigious capitals of culture, the two extraordinary Russian cities of St. Petersburg and Moscow are held in the highest regard. The very creation of St. Petersburg was a cultural statement by Peter the Great, whose vision was to “open a window on the West” to rival Europe’s greatest cities. This epicenter of art and architecture is highlighted during a specially reserved, early entrance and tour of the UNESCO World Heritage-designated State Hermitage Museum, allowing you to view the incomparable treasures of Catherine the Great’s spectacular art collections. True to Peter the Great’s vision, St. Petersburg, the artistic, literary and musical center of Russia, has engendered universally revered ballets, novels and classical compositions.

An important center of trade long before Ivan the Terrible declared it Russia’s capital in 1547, Moscow is a medieval city in its layout and original architecture. Today, this sophisticated city is a showcase of three UNESCO World Heritage sites and continues to be the heart of Russian finance, commerce, education and research. Here, you will visit the renowned Kremlin Territory and Red Square to see stunning, 16th-century St. Basil’s Cathedral and experience firsthand one of the most dynamic cities in the world.

Marvel at the grand interior and art collection within St. Petersburg’s renowned State Hermitage Museum.
MS VOLGA DREAM

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Durham, NC 27708-0572
Phone: (919) 684-3898
Fax: (919) 660-0148
travel@daa.duke.edu

Please make my/our reservation(s) in Stateroom Category:
1st choice ______ 2nd choice ______

Double occupancy (two twin beds).

Double occupancy (one queen bed).

Single accommodations.

I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations and will allow you to select my roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed).

I want you to book my/our air, at additional cost to be advised,‡ from:

First Class

Business Class

Upgraded Economy

Economy Class

(If in departure city)

Program reservations require a deposit of $800 per person and $200 per person Iconic Moscow Post-Program Option. By reserving and depositing on this program, I/we agree to the Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement as printed on the outside back cover of this brochure.

Enclosed is my/our check(s) for $__________ as deposit.

Make checks payable to Gohagan & Company.

I/We authorize you to charge my/our deposit of $__________ to: Visa MasterCard

Card Number Exp. Date

Signature as it appears on credit card

All FINAL PAYMENTS are required to be made by check or wire transfer by April 29, 2019.

WATERWAYS OF RUSSIA RESERVATION FORM

Stateroom Category: 7 Stateroom with two twin beds and one or two portholes. Cabin Deck. $5795
6 Stateroom with two twin beds and two windows. Main Deck, aft. (limited availability) $6795
5 Stateroom with two twin beds and two windows. Main Deck. $7595
4 Stateroom with one double bed and one or two windows. Promenade Deck, aft. $7995
3 Stateroom with one double bed and one or two windows. Promenade Deck, midship and forward. $8495
2 Stateroom with one double bed and one or two windows. Promenade Deck, midship. $8695
1 Stateroom with two twin beds and one or two windows. Sun Deck. $8995

Junior Suite

Suite with one queen bed, two windows, chair and desk. Sun Deck and Promenade Deck, midship. (limited availability) $9495

Owner’s Suite

Large Suite with one queen bed, eight windows and sitting area with sofa, chair and desk. Promenade Deck. (limited availability) $10395

Stateroom Category:
1 2
Stateroom with two twin beds and one or two portholes. Cabin Deck. $5795 $6795
Stateroom with two twin beds and two windows. Main Deck, aft. (limited availability) $6795 $7795
Stateroom with two twin beds and two windows. Main Deck. $7595 $8595
Stateroom with one double bed and one or two windows. Promenade Deck, aft. $7995 $8995
Stateroom with one double bed and one or two windows. Promenade Deck, midship and forward. $8495 $9495
Stateroom with one double bed and one or two windows. Promenade Deck, midship. $8695 $9695
Stateroom with two twin beds and one or two windows. Sun Deck. $8995 $9995

Single at $1195 per person.

Double at $895 per person.

Note: Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable.

Early Booking Tariff* through January 4, 2019
Tariff* after January 4, 2019

LAND/Cruise TARIFF excluding taxes* Per person, based on double occupancy

$7995 $7995
$7595 $8595
$7995 $8995
$8495 $9495
$8695 $9695
$8995 $9995
$9495 $10495
$10395 $11395

*Taxes are an additional $150 per person and are subject to change.

† Volga Dream has been specially contracted for this tour, and the applicable deck plan is available on request from Gohagan & Company and reflects the only valid cabin categorization of the vessel.

Sun Deck
Promenade Deck
Main Deck
Cabin Deck
Admire the Church of Our Savior on Spilled Blood, an iconic symbol of St. Petersburg.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND BINDING ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: Gohagan & Company, the sponsoring associations/organizations, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, trustees, successors, and assigns (collectively “Gohagan”), do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities, airline, vessel, or other transportation companies, guides or guide services, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional excursions, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Gohagan is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity or of any other third party.

In the event that Gohagan is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God or force majeure, acts of government, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, bites from or attacks by animals, insects or pests, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof, sickness, illness, epidemics or the threat thereof, the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

If due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Gohagan shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of such changes. Ship schedules, port calls, hours of arrival and departure, sightseeing events, special programs and guest lecture series (if applicable), are subject to change or cancellation. Gohagan reserves the right to substitute motorcoach transportation using hotels, inns or lodges for cruise accommodations if necessary due to weather, water conditions or levels, other events of force majeure, mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation, or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations for all or any part of the trip including Pre/Post Program(s) reservation(s) will not be effective until received in writing in the offices of Gohagan. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: reservation cancellation(s) is subject to a $200 ($50 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person administrative fee from the time of booking through 120 days prior to departure; from 95 through 119 days prior to departure, $800 ($200 Pre/Post Program(s)) per person; from 60 through 94 days prior to departure, 50% of the published full regular tariffs; cancellations 59 days or less prior to departure, a no-show, or early return from the trip will result in forfeiture of 100% of the published full regular tariffs. In addition, any applicable airline cancellation fees, optional excursion cancellation fees and administrative fees may apply.

TRIP DISCOUNTS: We strongly recommend for your protection that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Insurance information will be sent upon confirmation from Gohagan.

DISCOUNTED RESERVATIONS: Discounts apply only to those reservations received in the offices of Gohagan in writing, accompanied by the required deposit; by February 15 for spring and summer trips; by August 1 for fall trips; by December 1 for winter trips. In the event a “discounted” reservation must be cancelled, no “replacement” reservation can be substituted at the discounted rate. A “replacement” reservation is a new reservation and can be substituted only at the full-fare tariff. Cancellation penalties may apply.

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