ST. PETERSBURG TRAVEL GUIDE 2016

Airport – city center
Pulkovo Airport is located 20 km from St. Petersburg city center. Taxi fare is about 1000 RUB. Bus ticket to Moskovskaya metro station – 30 RUB (routes number – №39, №39Э operating from 5:30 am to 1:30 am). Arrived just for one day? Use luggage storage at the airport – 300 RUB/day. Don’t forget to take a free city map at the tourist information desk in the arrivals.

Public transport
Apart from metro (single-ride ticket is 35 RUB), you can use mini-buses, buses, trams and trolley buses (single ride ticket is 30 RUB), in summer you can also use aquabuses cruising along the Neva river. During the navigation season (April-October), in order to see the spectacular bridges going open at night, check the drawbridges schedule here. Transport routes can be found on Google Maps and on the city portal of public transport. Map and operation of metro stations – http://www.metro.spb.ru/en/ More info on transport.

Where to stay: Palace, Hotel, or Hostel
The variety of accommodation in St. Petersburg has increased a lot. The price per night at a decent hostel is between 600 and 2500 RUB/bed depending on the high/low season. An average 4 star hotel in the city center will cost about 7000 RUB. City districts description can be found here http://petersburg4u.com/cat/basic-info/city-districts
Have a look at these articles to find out more:
Best and worst hotels and hostels
Where to stay and how much to pay
How to choose a Hotel
How to choose a Hostel

Food: restaurants, cafes and grocery stores
Rubinsteina street – a good choice for those looking to dine out.
Eliiseev store – pop in to this historical store with “Modern” style interior to some elite delicacies. Teremok and Stolle chain bistros - Russian pancakes and pies with yummy and filling stuffings. Mamma Roma, Market place, Marchelli’s - Italian restaurant chains in various districts of the city, affordable and tasty.
Three restaurants, which we would recommend to our friends: Kokoko, Italy cafe, Moskva.
Large food supermarkets for those looking to stock up and party – Okey, Auchan, Lenta, Perekrestok. Small local grocery shops for all essentials are Diksi, Pyaterochka.

Main attractions of St. Petersburg
The high street of the city is Nevsky Prospect. Kazansky Cathedral, Stroganov Palace, Anichkov Bridge, Gostiny Dvor, and many other attractions are located just along this prospect. If you are limited in time, take a walk from Palace Square and Hermitage, the most important museum and art collection in the city, along the Nevsky Prospect to Vosstaniya Square. Take a stroll along minor streets crossing Nevsky - you will find beautiful bridges and mansions, cosy gardens and riverboat trips there. If you’re running out of time, hop on trolleybus №1 or bus №7.

The most popular tourist places
Hermitage – see one of the most valuable art collections in the world.
Peter and Paul Fortress – check out the city foundation place where the history of St. Petersburg started.
Peterhof (fountains and palaces). Located 30 km south to Petersburg. In summer it’s fun to take a speedboat from a quay near the Hermitage to get there.
St. Isaac’s Cathedral – enjoy great city views from the upper colonnade circle.
Savior on Spilled Blood cathedral – admire unique mosaics of this typical Russian architecture church on the banks of the Griboyedov channel.
Russian Museum – explore the largest collection of Russian art.
See more information about these and other sights of St. Petersburg on our website.
If you do not have enough time to plan your own route or prefer experts showing you around the city, find a touristic guide in St. Petersburg. Approximate cost of a one day tour – 5000 RUB, for half day – 3000 RUB.

What else you should do in St. Petersburg
Visit one of the best opera and ballet theaters - the Mariinsky or Mihailovsky theatres.
If the weather is nice, enjoy a boat ride along the rivers and channels and see some of 300+ bridges from a different perspective.
Take a walk along the leafy alleys of the Summer Garden, have a rest next to its fountains and admire the statues of Italian masters.
Visit historical districts - Kolomna, the Petrogradskaya side, Vasylyevsky Island - if possible, with a guided tour.
Commemorate those who fought for Russia watching the eternal fire and enjoy the fragrance of lilacs at the Marsovo field.

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Night and evening life
A bunch of evening and nightlife bars can be found in the Dumskaya street. Read about them here. Several good pubs: Oldham, The Office Pub, Mollie’s. Nightlife: one of the XXXX clubs, Griboyedov, Estrada, Coyote Ugly, Barrel. Trendy places: Buddha Bar, Nebar, Erarta-Stage.

Shopping in St. Petersburg
Department stores within 5 minutes from Nevsky prospect: Bolshoi Gostiny Dvor, Passage, Nevsky Centre, Galeria. Designer clothes can be found on Bolshoy Prospekt of Petrogradskaya side. Flea Market is located near the Udel’naya metro. Antiques - Mohovaya and Pestelya streets. Outlets - Outlet Pulkovo Village, Babochka Outlet. Discount Center "Rumba". More information is available here.

Find more about St. Petersburg at our pages
vk.com/petersburg4u
facebook.com/petersburg4u

Other useful information
Proven guidebooks of St. Petersburg: St.Petersburg and the Top10 by Dorling Kinderslay publishing company, Afisha Guide. Call #112 for police, ambulance, firefighters. Tourist offices (you can take a free map there) – Palace Square from 10.00 to 19.00, daily; Pulkovo Airport from 09.00 to 21.00 daily. Travel support +7 812 30 30 555. Private emergency and injury care – Medem, Marata str., 6, 7 (812) 336-3333. Luggage, handbags, shoes repair – on the ground floor of "Galeria" shopping mall, Ligovsky pr., b.30A. Laundry in the city center - Sadovaya street, b.30, Sadovaya Str., b. 32, Fontanka emb., b. 123. Taxi, a ride within center about 200-300 RUB, a residential district-center 300-500 RUB. Reservation of theater and concerts tickets - kassir.ru. Purchase and delivery of flowers - Doritis.ru. Internet cafes (Internet, printer, scanner) on Nevsky - www.cafemax.ru.