

INTERNATIONAL LANDSCAPE ART CENTRE «GREEN ARROW»

Learning tour of events in St Petersburg “Captivating Gardens and Parks of Cultural Capital of Russia”

This graceful professional training project will be interesting and helpful for landscape designers, architects and garden keepers and lovers alike. We have selected the best parks and private garden of the region through our expansive professional network. You can expect the week of intensive exposure to the landscape art of St Petersburg as an outstanding architectural and horticultural capital period of prosperity of the Russian Empire.



Day 1:

09.25. Departure from London (British Airways)
15.45. Arrival to St Petersburg.
 Transfer to Hotel
18.00. Check-in at the Hotel
20.0 - 22.00. Evening tour on the boat on the river and canals

Day 2:

Breakfast at the hotel.

09.00 - 13.00. Sightseeing excursion of St Petersburg.



St Petersburg is the pearl of Russia, museum under the open sky, and it takes much more than one day to explore it. But to have a general impression of the city of Neva, you will enjoy the sightseeing tour where you will have a chance to view the most famous architectural attractions of St Petersburg – Palace Square with Alexander’s Column and magnificent Arch of the General Assembly, Admiralty, Kazan Cathedral and Church of the Saviour on Blood in Russian style, as well as many other treasures of the Northern Venice, as St Petersburg often gets called.

Our guide will also lead you through Peter and Paul Fortress, where main political prisoners were incarcerated from the epoch of Peter the Great. From 1924 the prison was closed and became a museum. Magnificent Saint Isaac’s Cathedral which is towering over the square of the same name, will stun you with its largeness and grandeur as the main cathedral of St Petersburg. Unforgettable impression is also guaranteed by the Copper Rider of the Square of Senate, which a monument dedicated to Emperor Peter I. And even though it is bronze, rather than copper, its name is derived from the famous poem of Pushkin.

13.00 - 14.00. Lunch at the café.

14.30 - 16.00. Visiting the Summer Garden.

Summer Garden is the monumental testimony of the horticultural art of the beginning of 18 century. The Garden was built in 1704, near the Summer Residence of Peter I and was designed by the Tsar himself. The territory of the Summer Garden was stretching from Neva until the modern day Neva Prospect. At the time, it was the French formal park with strict geometrical plot of alleys, flowerbeds and trimmed trees. To

drain the marshy terrain of the Garden, canals and streams were made, and river Moika was connected with river Fontanka.

Peter I, after he visited Versailles in 1716, invited Jean Batiste Leblon, who was the apprentice of the architect Andre Lenotre, to help establish his designs. In the Garden in that time numerous statues, groves, bird reservations, zoos and fountains made their appearance. With time, as the trees grew larger and the architectural sites were lost, the Garden became partly landscape park. After extensive architectural and archival research, the project of reconstruction of the Summer Garden was launched for the period of its highest opulence – the first half of 18 century. The Garden was solemnly opened after its restoration for the visitors in May 2012.

At the park we will be met by the specialists working at the Russian Museum, that the Summer Garden now belongs to.



16.00 - 17.00. Park Mikhailovsky in landscape style. Here we will meet the leading gardener.

17.30 - 19.00. Visit to the School of the Landscape Design “Green Arrow” International Centre of Landscape Art “Green Arrow” of St Petersburg has been opened for over 6 years. For the past years it has become the centre of attraction for the Russian lovers of gardening art. The Centre organises a great number of lectures, seminars, trips around the world for Russian and international landscape specialists as well as amateur gardeners. At the School “Green Arrow” numerous British designers, such as John Brookes MBA, Rosemary Alexander, Andy Sturgeon, Andrew Duff, Anthony Paul led seminars on a number of occasion.

Welcoming of the delegation by the management of the organisation. Tea with Russian pies. On option – Russian vodka.) Transfer to the Hotel.



Day 3:

Breakfast at the Hotel.

08.30. Transfer from the Hotel.

10.00 - 13.00. Pushkin Town (formerly - Tsarskoye Selo): excursion at the Catherine Palace, including the Amber Room and the Catherine Park, which is made of two parts: the regular Old Garden and scenery English park. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth Petrovna Tsarskoye Selo became the long-standing imperial residence.



The park was built in 1717 – 1720 , by gardeners Roozne and Fokht; in 1742—1761 by architects Zemtsov, Rasterelli, and Chevakinskiy; in 1762—1796 by architects Neelov, Rinaldi, Felten, Cameron and Kvarnegi. In 1989 palaces and parks of the Pushkin Town ensemble were included in the World Heritages list of UNESCO. Within the preparation to the celebration of 300th anniversary of the Tsarskoye Selo, which was celebrated in 2010, the Catherine Park underwent restoration works and opened a number of pavilions for visitors.

13.00 - 14.30. Lunch at the cafe «Podvorie», Russian cuisine.

14.30 - 17.30. Visiting of the Pavlovsk Park.

One of the best examples of the landscape gardens in the world, Pavlovsk Park reflects in itself the features of formal gardens with its distinctive trim of trees and formal symmetric planning. Here one can also see stone terraces, cascades and stairs, typical for Italian Gardens. It is no coincidence that Pavlovsk Park became a sort of encyclopedia of horticultural art. The park is stretched on the space of 600 hectares. If all its pathways are put together, it would make a road long enough to reach Moscow.

Catherine the Great gave this land to her son Paul and his Dutch wife Maria, on the birthday of her first



grandson Alexander in 1777.



In creating palace and park ensemble, these masters took part – architects Cameron, Brenna, Voronihin, Rossi, Thomas de Tomon; sculptors Martos, Kozlovskiy, Demut-Malinovskiy; painters Scotti, Gonzago and other remarkable artists. As if they were passing round the stick of the fine arts, they have transformed the huge centuries old forest into a true work of art.

Gradually, throughout 50 years the Pavlovsk ensemble was being built. Pavilions, some fine and light, others formal and monumental, were raised. Some looked like the temples of antiquity, others like the villagers' huts. All of the individual areas of the park are linked together artistically and form a single complete ensemble.

The park was preserved carefully after the revolution, and after the fascist occupation was restored thoroughly. **We will view the most interesting areas for landscape and will meet the leading gardener.**

Day 4:

Breakfast at the Hotel.

08.30. Transfer from the Hotel.

10.00 - 13.00. Sightseeing tour of the Upper Garden and the Lower Garden of Peter's Palace.

Peter's Palace is the jewel in the crown of St Petersburg's suburbs. Since it was built in the beginning of the 18 century by the orders of Peter I on the coast of the Finn Canal, it became the main Residence of the Emperor and the symbol of Russian Empire's triumphant access of the Baltic Sea.

The structure of Peter's Palace ensemble includes the formality and symmetry of the composition and balances it with subtle elements of natural landscape and diversity of artistic arrangement of the different parts of the park, pavilions and fountains.



Upper Garden is the greatest example of the restoration of a formal garden in the history of park construction. Occupying the space of 15 hectares, it has great significance in the artistic look of the ensemble of Peter's Palace and serves as its front yard.

The guide will introduce you to the exciting history of the complex' creation. You will be able to view various architectural masterpieces: Hermitage pavilion, palaces Monpleisir and Marley, West and East Terraces, and of course the central building of the Petergof's ensemble – the Grand Place, visiting of which is included in our programme.

Petergof saw its global fame through its breathtaking fountain system, which includes more than 150 fountains and 4 waterfalls. Millions of tourists from around the world come to Petergof to see this outstanding sight. In 2008 Petergof was on the top of the list in the national competition "Seven Wonders of Russia".

We will also be introduced to the main gardener of the Petergof's parks.

13.00 - 14.00. Dinner at the café at Petergof.

15.00 - 16.30. Gardening master class from Petergof's Elena Kuzmenko in creation of decorative vegetable garden, as in the example of Peter's garden in Strelna, which she had restored, and sharing of her experience in growing, applying and using in designs of spices and medicinal herbs.

16.30 - 18.00. Transfer to the hotel.

Day 5:

Breakfast at the Hotel.

08.00. Transfer from the Hotel.



09.00 - 10.40. Excursion to the show garden of the oldest landscape company of St Petersburg "Dinos Park". Introduction to the company at the headquarters.

11.00 - 12.30. Visiting the small private garden of Tatiana Malinina at the village Lysiy Nos.

This garden is nearly 20 years old and is one of the most beautiful and cosiest private gardens of the St Petersburg's suburbs, with its own Genius Keeper in place. We will be introduced to her (the gardener) and grab a cup of herbal tea for the conversation.



Transfer to Vyborg town.

14.00 - 15.00. Medieval dinner at the restaurant in the city of Vyborg "Round Tower" with historic interiors.

15.30 - 17.30. Visit to the landscape garden Park Monrepos (which means "My Rest")



We will be introduced to the surprising history of this monument of landscape architecture and ideological concept of the park. This cliff landscape, rare in its beauty, is located at the former private mansion on the coast of Vyborg's Channel. For more than 200 years Monrepos belonged to the barons of Nicolai, who served Russia in the areas of education, diplomacy, military and religion. Landscapes of Monrepos are stunning regardless of the season, and include unique necropolis island, ancient famous healing stream, granite "wave cliffs" and old time alleys on the picturesque coast. The total land of the park is 160 hectares. Historic nucleus of this reservation museum is the ensemble of parks and mansions of the end of

18 and beginning of 19 century. It includes the monuments of wooden works of Classicism architecture (central mansion house and library wing) and landscape cliff park of the Romantic Era – a unique monument of the gardening and landscape art. At present, Monrepos restoration project is in process, and we will be introduced to the specialists involved in the carrying out of the present project.

20.00. Transfer back to the hotel.

Day 6:

Breakfast at the hotel.

Check out of the hotel.

08.00. Transfer from the hotel.

09.30 - 11.00. Visiting of the private garden of Irina Pyzhikova, painter and architect, collector's heiress and famous gardener. Introduction to the garden planning and collections of decorative plants.



11.00 - 12.30. Visiting of the private garden and nursery “Garden of Alexander” of Marina Shimanskaya, celebrity florist and landscape designer. The garden will be of interest for its design as well as its specimens.



12.40 - 14.00. Introduction to the private garden of Antonina Mikhailova.

Antonina Mikhailova is the director of her own landscape studio. In her little garden geoplactic art and decorative landscape changes are of special interest. Picnic at the garden.

14.00. Transfer to the airport.

17.05. Departure from St Petersburg.

15.45. Arrival to London.

Price per person from:

Staying at the twin room - 785 GBP

Staying at the single room - 915 GBP

Price includes:

- **Hotel accommodation at 3* hotel**
- **Transfers according programme**
- **Guide and interpreter services**
- **Entrance tickets to the parks and gardens**
- **Organisation of all the meetings and invitation of the specialists as well as the learning experience**
- **Permanent Group Leader of the time of travel**

Price does not include:

- **Flight Tickets, visa, insurance, lunches and dinners**