RCTC bicycle tour Moscow to Saint-Petersburg

Three capitals of Russia

Day to day program

Day 1: Moscow (no cycling)

Arrival in Moscow. We stay at the hotel in the east part of Moscow next to the biggest Moscow park and 5 minutes walk from an underground station. It takes 15 minutes by metro to get to the Red Square. After short briefing and buffet dinner we will go for a walk in the center of Moscow.



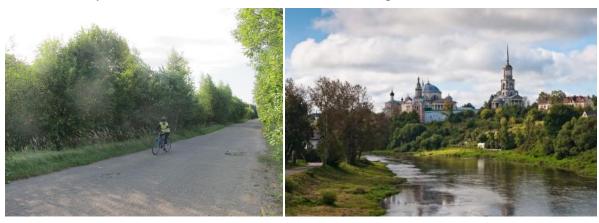
Day 2: Bicycle tour of Moscow, Tver 30 km.

We start with a bicycle tour of Moscow along rivers from the hotel to the Victory Park. We will pass the Kremlin, Gorky Park, Vorob'evy hills with a view point of Moscow. After a lunch we will take a bus to Tver (200 km), old city on the Volga, a capital of the region. After settling down at the hotel in the center of the city we go to a guided walking tour of Tver including a dinner cooked by old local recipes.



Day 3: Torzhok, 64 km.

A short transfer to Mednoe memorial (30 km). After visiting the Memorial of mass repressions we ride to Torzhok by a quiet road through a forest. On our way we will stop near house-museum of famous Russian opera singer Sergey Lemeshev. Torzhok – an old Russian town, famous for its unique architecture and folk craft of gold work embroidery. We have a guided tour of the town. Chicken cutlets (called Pozharskie) were invented here. Great Russian poet Alexander Pushkin used to eat them here. We have a master class of cooking them. We stay in the hotel in an old historic building in the center of the town.



Day 4: Lake Seliger, 35 km.

We start a day with bus transfer to Seliger lake (140 km). We visit the <u>Saint Nil monastery</u> Overnight in a country hotel near lake Sig. You may try a real Russian steam bath (banya).





Day 5: Staraya Russa, 60 km.

Transfer to Korpovo (120 km). From there we cycle to Staraya Russa – around 60 km by a good quiet road. Staraya Russa is an old provincial town famous for a balneological (spa) resort and Fedor Dostoevsky museum. Fyodor Dostoevsky used to live in Staraya Russa from 1872 till his death in 1881. He wrote here his novels The Brothers Karamazov and The Possessed. After settling in the hotel we walk in the spa resort with mineral water tasting. We visit a tourist center where we taste products produced at local companies. Dinner at 19.30 at the best city restaurant.



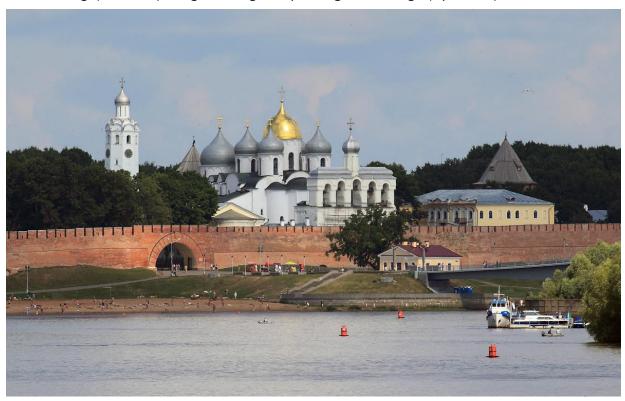
Day 6: Veliky Novgorod, 35 km.

After visiting Dostoevsky museum there is a short bus transfer to Borki (75 km) from where we cycle a scenic road along lake Ilmen to Veliky Novgorod (35 km). On our way we stop in Ur'evo to see the oldest Russian monastery and the open-air museum of wooden architecture "Vitoslavitsy". Veliky Novgorod is one of the oldest Russian cities supposed to be the most influential in that time which gives us grounds to call it the first capital of Russia. The center of the city including outstanding Kremlin is World Heritage Site. We stay in a hotel opposite to the Kremlin. City-tour in Novgorod with a local guide.



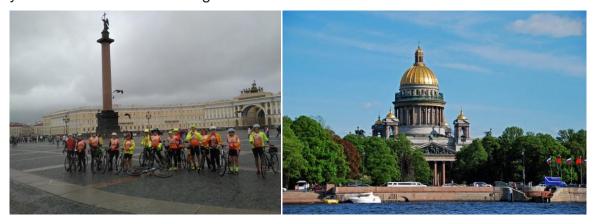
Day 7: 58 km.

You start in Novgorod and cycle to Selistchi along Volkhov river by quiet road. We finish near ruins of <u>Arakcheev barracks</u> From there we will take a bus to St. Petersburg (150 km). Night bridges opening watching (optional).



Day 8: St. Petersburg. 30 km

Bicycle tour in St. Petersburg. Farewell dinner.



Day 9: Departure (no cycling)

It is time to say goodbye, hopefully we'll see you back soon on our future trips. We wish you a good flight back home or a pleasant stay in St Petersburg.

Guided tour to the Hermitage or bus tour to Peterhof park is optional.