




On the Neva embankments




“On the Neva embankments” route is an informative walk, which includes the most famous sights of Saint-Petersburg. You will visit the main square of the city, the Hermitage, the Summer Garden. Then you will cross the Neva River by the Trinity Bridge and continue your captivating route.



Hermitage Museum



 Dvortsovaya Ploshchad', 2
 Admiralteyskaya, Gostiny Dvor, Nevskiy Prospekt
 59.939719,30.314593

 (812) 710-90-79
 www.hermitagemuseum.org/html_E
 2 ч.

Hermitage is the former residence of the Russian emperors, the biggest museum in Russia, the main point of interest in Saint-Petersburg.

Admission fee

Entrance ticket - 700 RUR to the Main Museum Complex and the branches (the Main Museum Complex, the General Staff Building, Winter Palace of Peter the Great, Menshikov Palace, the Museum of the Imperial Porcelain Factory).

The most well-known sights - Must see!

The State Hermitage is the main sight in the city. Every tourist, who comes here, wants to see its unique collection. It is possible to visit the Hermitage in terms of an independent trip, as well as a part of the sightseeing tour. Also in the Hermitage there are a lot of thematic excursions for adults and kids, events and lectures are held. In addition, there is a service of audio guide is available (deposit needed).

The sights - record-holders

The State Hermitage is in the list of the biggest museums in the whole world. In Russia it is the leader by the number of museum exhibits. No wonder, almost three million of the great masterpieces are in its halls.

The city in architecture and monuments

The collection of the State Hermitage originated from the big collection of paintings of Western Europe, which was bought by Catherine II from the German merchant. The next purchased collections (of Robert Walpole, Count Baldwin, Josephine de Beauharnais and others) insensibly, but regularly increased the collection of the State Hermitage. Designs of the interiors and galleries were created by the great architects. Unfortunately, in 1937 the severe fire destroyed almost all inner decoration of the State Hermitage. But, the main thing is that the most part of the collection was lost. Although, after several years the interiors were reconstructed and the new collections started to be purchased for the State Hermitage. In 1917 the Hermitage and Winter Palace got the status of the state museum. During the Great Patriotic War the collection of the State Hermitage was transported to the Urals to preserve it. In 1945 the museum opened its door for visitors and continued to increase the collection.

Pictorial, photo, decorative and applied arts

Besides paintings in the State Hermitage you can also see other exhibits: pieces of arts of different epochs and nations, from the primitive time to the antiquity, from the Russian culture to the Eastern culture. Also, in the museum there is the impressive numismatic collection. One more interesting collection of the State Hermitage is the Treasury Gallery. Nowadays, it consists from two parts: Golden Gallery and Diamond Gallery, in each gallery there is its own special excursion. Exhibits of the Golden Gallery number almost 1500 pieces from different centuries - of the XIX century and from our era. Besides the golden pieces from various countries and epochs, there are also objects from the churches of the XV-XVI centuries. In the Diamond gallery there are the masterpieces of jewellery of the East, Western Europe and Saint-Petersburg.

Saint Michael's Castle



📍 Sadovaya Ulitsa, 2
🗺️ Gostiny Dvor, Nevskiy Prospekt
📞 59.939902,30.338077

📞 +7(812)595-42-48
🌐 www.rusmuseum.ru/eng/museum/co
🕒 1 ч. 30 мин.

Saint Michael's Castle is the prominent architectural monument, wrapped in mysteries and legends, connected with the personality of its former owner the Emperor Paul I, who was killed in the castle. Interesting and unusual planning of the building rises it above the other sights of Saint-Petersburg.

Admission fee

Entrance ticket: for adults - 300 RUR, for students and children of the age from 7 to 16 - 150 RUR

Opening hours

Wed. - Mon. - 10:00a.m. - 06:00 p.m. Thu. - 01:00a.m. - 09:00p.m. Tue. - closed. To determine information on opening hours visit an official website.

R The most well-known sights - Must see!

Saint Michael's Castle is located on Sadovaya Street and is the architectural monument, completing Saint-Petersburg architecture of the XVIII century. A lot of tourists and citizens visit Saint Michael's Castle. The particular interest for visitors is the secrets and legends, connected with the mysterious death of the first owner of the castle.

R The city in architecture and monuments

The building of the Saint Michael's Castle was erected in 1797-1801 by the design of the architect V. Bazhenov and V. Brenna and combined different tricks and architectural styles. The castle was constructed as the main residence of the Emperor, and got the name "Mikhailovsky" (Saint Michael's castle) in honor of the archangel Michael, the defender of the Romanov dynasty. Nowadays, the building, which looks like the medieval castle, is the only one extant construction, erected in the romantic classicism style. Originally, the Saint Michael's Castle was completely surrounded by water, reminding the island. Unusual design of the building was caused by the fear of the palace revolution, which constantly overcame the Emperor Paul I during his reign. The Saint Michael's Castle was erected so that he had a chance to avoid the sabotage. However, the unusual planning of the castle didn't guard Paul I. He lived in his residence for 40 days, whereupon, he received a severe beating and was stabbed to death in his own chambers. After the tragic events of that night, the Saint Michael's Castle was moved to the balance of the Department of the Royal court.

In 1823 the castle was given to the Main Engineering School and the building got its new name - Engineers' Castle. After the death of the sponsor of the school - Nicholas I, the constitution was named "Nikolayevskaya Engineering Academy". The best cultural and historical workers taught and graduated from the academy, among them poets, scientists, musicians, heroes and many others.

After the Great Patriotic War in the building there were the Soviet institutions. The palace rooms were divided up and down and the decorations were painted. The scale reconstruction of the building and its inner interiors is held since the beginning of 1990s. In the beginning of the XXI century the part of the part of the defensive constructions, which earlier surrounded the building, had been recovered. In consequence of that the parts of the Trekhpoletniy bridge and Voskresensky Channel were opened. Thanks to the historical researches, archeological works and architectural plans, scientists managed to reconstruct the main complex of the Paul's I reign.

R Mystic and cult places

The Saint Michael's Castle is shroud in myths and legends, connected with the mysterious death of the emperor. One of the versions says that a couple months before the murder of Paul I, some beata appeared in Saint-Petersburg and predicted the death to the emperor: "You have left as many years, as many letters in the inscription above the Voskresenskie Gates of the castle". That inscription said: «Дому твоему подобает святыня господня въ долготу дней» (rus) - biblical aphorism, which contains 47 letters, the same age the emperor was at the moment of his murder. There is one more legend, according to which the ghost of Paul I didn't find peace and still wanders over the empty hall of The Saint Michael's Castle. As for the unusual color of the walls, there are two more legends too: the first one says, that it was chosen in honor of the Paul's favorite Anna Lopukhina, the second one - that it is connected with the traditions of the Order of Malta.

R Pictorial, photo, decorative and applied arts

The miracle of luxury and taste - that is how the contemporary speak of the inner decoration of The Saint Michael's Castle. The art experts, painters, artists worked on the inner decoration of the castle. As well as the most of the palace of that times, the Saint Michael's Castle represents the main residence of the emperor and the art gallery. The Hall of Antiquities, Museum of Arabesques, Raphael and Laocoon - enfilade of the magnificent galleries, decorated with the real masterpieces from the personal collection of Paul I. The majority of the objects of the palace decoration were created by the design of the architects C. Rossi and V. Brenna.

Cruiser Aurora



📍 Petrogradskaya Naberezhnaya
🗺 Gor'kovskaya
📞 59.955397,30.337626

☎ +7(812)232-63-70
🌐 www.aurora.org.ru/eng/index.ph
🕒 1 ч.

Cruiser Aurora – is the symbol of the October Revolution 1917, now represents the functional ship-museum. Cruiser Aurora – is the member of the Global Association of the historic naval ships.

Admission fee

Excursions only. Excursion ticket: for adults - 300 RUR, for students, schoolchildren and pensioners - 100 RUR

L The most well-known sights - Must see!

If you talk about the sights of Saint-Petersburg, the old people at first think about the Cruiser Aurora. The bright symbol of the revolution, which shot changed the life and history not only of the whole country, but the world history in whole. The revolution past of the ship for sure overshadow the events, which happened with the ship before the revolution events, which made a difference in a ship's destiny, but in lives of millions of people. Before the Cruiser Aurora stopped for the everlasting berthing, it has a great military career, grand past, glorious present and good future.

L Military and political history

The Cruiser was constructed specially for the Baltic Fleet, it was a real masterpiece of the military technology, in terms of the technique, excellent work of all mechanisms and systems and missions, which the ship could and was able to fulfil. In 1903 the Cruiser Aurora became a part of the Baltic Fleet and immediately after putting afloat, it joined the squadron of the rear-admiral A. A. Verinius, who the propulsion of the squadron to the far East to reinforce the Port Arthur. The situation was not very serene, so the Russian Army and the Fleet tried to force their positions in this area.

Less than a year later the Russian Empire levied war on Japan. The fleet, which stood in Djibouti, was immediately recalled in Baltic Sea. In April 1904 the Cruiser Aurora entered in to the second armada of the Pacific Fleet, and in August departed for Kronshtadt. Right from here, the Cruiser under the command of the vice-admiral Z. P. Rozhdestvensky took the course in the waters of the Pacific Ocean, where the military operations went in full swing. It was the Russo-Japanese war.

May 1905 was really heated - the cruiser Aurora took part in the military operations during the Battle of Tsushima, where the admiral H. Togo commanded the Japanese Fleet. Ten shells hit the cruiser, the smoke-stacks were damaged, the forward mine machine was sunk, the water got into the coal compartments. On the 21th of May vice-admiral O. Enkvist withdraw some ships, among which there was the Cruiser Aurora, in the neutral Philippine waters, so that is how "Aurora", as well as the ships "Oleg" and "Perl" appeared in Manila. Less than a week later the Americans interned the ships and made the crews to undertake not to participate in military actions and to observe neutrality.

The turning for Russia 1917 year was approaching - the workers of the factory, where the ship was on the stocks, persuaded the crew of the cruiser to participate in revolutionary disorders. On the 25th of October 1917 the Revolutionary Council of Petrograd ordered to reduce the bridge, which connected Vasilievsky Island and the city centre. At 9.45 p.m. of the same day the Cruiser "Aurora" fired a blank shot from the prow gun, the signal to start the uprising. Immediately, the soldiers and sailors started the storm of the Winter Palace. What happened next is obvious from the numerous study books.




The Great Patriotic War found the Cruiser "Aurora" in Oranienbaum. The ship bravely defended Leningrad, antiaircraft artillery kept the air attacks of the German aces. During the active military operations the ship was really damaged and it was decided to repair and reconstruct the cruiser and open the museum of the October revolution on its board. In 1947 Cruiser Aurora stopped for its eternal station on the embankment of the Malaya Nevka and looked the same as it was in 1917, when it made a signal for the starting of the revolution. In spite of the fact, that the ship has a status of the museum complex and historical monument, it is officially a part of the Baltic military shipping, has the active crew and is a functioning military unit. Also, it is used as a training base for the students of the Nakhimov Naval School.




R The city in architecture and monuments

In spite of the fact that Cruiser Aurora became the part of the Fleet in 1903, it was constructed 6 years earlier on the dockyards of the factory "New Admiralty" and was launched in presence of the Royal Family in May 1900. Originally, Cruiser "Aurora" was supposed to be a part of the squadron of battleships and provide the reconnaissance and cover. Although, in fact, it turns out to be not big enough, had a small power reserve and not safe enough armor to participate in big battles, because the original project prepared it for the training purposes. The Cruiser got its name in honor of the frigate, which took part in battles during the Crimean War. The museum exposition is located on the cruiser's board – it is approximately 10 rooms, among which there is the engine room, the boiler room, the conning tower and captain's bridge. There are no individual excursions on the cruiser, but it is possible to visit a group excursion, during which you can learn about the glorious centenary history of the ship, see the unique ship machines and other very interesting and unusual exhibits.

Summer Garden



 Naberezhnaya Kutuzova
 Chernyshevskaya, Nevskiy Prospekt, Gostiny Dvor
 59.941836,30.336678

 +7(812)595-42-48
 www.rusmuseum.ru/eng/museum/co
 1 ч.

Summer garden is the prominent park ensemble, monument of the garden-park art of the first third of the XVIII century with the wonderful collection of the Italian marble sculpture of the XVII-XIX centuries, located in the very centre of Saint-Petersburg.

Admission fee

free entrance.

L The most well-known sights - Must see!

Summer garden – is the great example of the landscape art. Its shady alleys and wonderful sculptures makes the Summer Garden one of the most popular places for both: tourists, who visit Saint-Petersburg and citizens, who would like to spend some good time here.

R The city in architecture and monuments

Summer Garden was laid in the first third of the XVIII century by the decree of the Emperor Peter I. The reasons for its creation originally were quite personal – Peter the Great wanted to lay the garden for himself and personally designed its plan to make it more alike the West European parks of that time. Later, the Summer Garden was supposed to be used as summer residence for the emperor. Numerous garden masters and architects (first of them was Ivan Matveev) worked on realization of the Peter's I desires. Also, among the architects, who worked on the project of the Summer Garden were D. Trezzini, M. Zemtsov, F. – B. Rastrelli and many other. Marble statues for the decoration of the garden were ordered by Peter the Great straight from Italy, where the best Venetian masters worked on them.




The most notable in the garden is its wonderful fence, which called Nevskaya. The project of the fence was created by the architect Y. Felten and took him 15 years to realize it, but the beauty of this fence catches the imagination. It is 232 meters of the real art. Decorated with bronze and gilt fence, column vases, made of red granite, wonderful carving of the gates – all this completes the image of the Summer Garden and makes it absolutely unforgettable.




R Love and romance

Summer Garden is located in the heart of Saint-Petersburg and is one of the most romantic places in the city. This wonderful ensemble could melt any heart and you can't stop admiring its sculptures and fountains, especially if you are in company with your loved one. The Summer Garden is the popular place for the dates since its foundation.

Peter and Paul Fortress



-  Hare Island, Peter and Paul Fortress
-  Gor'kovskaya
-  59.951271,30.321769

-  +7(812)230-64-31
-  www.spbmuseum.ru/en/themuseum/
-  1 ч.

Peter and Paul fortress – is the first class fortified structure of the XVIII century, one of the main sights in Saint-Petersburg. Peter and Paul cathedral, which is located on the territory of the fortress – is one of the main symbols of the city, necropolis of the Royal Romanov Family. Here you will find the fascinating walking route “Nevskaya Panorama”, famous prison of the Trubetskoy Bastion, different museums, exhibitions, midday shot from the walls of the Peter and Paul Fortress.

Admission fee

Entrance ticket in Peter and Paul Cathedral and Grand Ducal Burial Chapel: for adults - 450 RUR, for school children and students - 250 RUR.

The most well-known sights - Must see!

Peter and Paul Fortress is one of the main sights of Saint-Petersburg. This structure represents the work of the great military engineers with the group of buildings, among which there is the Peter and Paul cathedral – not only the highest architectural monument (122.5 meters) and the third highest building in the city, but also one of the most popular symbols of the city.

Military and political history

Peter and Paul Fortress from the day of its foundation was used as the main prison for political criminals in Russia and never had to do with military actions. One of the bright examples of the political prisons from 1872 till 1921 was the prison of the Trubetskoy bastion by the engineers K. P. Andreev and M. A. Pasipkin, which was constructed in 1870-1872 and became the central jail for the people, accused of state and legal criminal acts. Prisoners were kept in really stringent atrocious conditions without any contacts with the outside world (meeting were forbidden as well as correspondence and even communication with other prisoners), also, smoking was prohibited and reading of books (the Bible was the only exception). Such atmosphere inside the prison often led to the uprisings of the accused. Originally, the structure provided for 73 single cells, but from 1878 its number was reduced to 69. For the period of its functioning there were more than 1500 people: from 1870 till 1880 there were revolutionists P. A. Kropotkin, G. A. Lopatin, V. N. Figner, A. I. Zhelyabov, N. A. Morozov and the older brother of Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov-Lenin – Alexander, from 1890 in its cells there were A. S. Shapovalov, P. N. Lepeshinsky, M. A. Olmsky, N. A. Bauman; during 1905-1907 the writer Maxim Gorkiy and other opponent of the further bloodshed became the accused; also the prisoners were the participants of the Petersburg Soviet of workers' deputies L. D. Trotskiy, A. L. Parvus, members of the socialist party B. V. Savinkov, E. K. Breshko-Breshkovskaya, S. V. Balmashev, V. M. Chernov. After the February 1917 the government Ministers at the Royal personage, the leaders of the political investigation Department were brought to the jail. And in the October 1917 there were members of the Provisional Government and military rebellion, the activists of the cadet party and other discontented with the power of the Bolshevik's party. The isolated custodial system was only for several accused, for the others there were the mass cells. The official closing of the prison was in 1918, but several prisoners were there till 1921. Since 1924 this place became the real evidence of the cruelty of the old days. Now in the museum you can see the archive materials, photos, videos, audio files of the memories of the prisoners, the halls and cells, which were preserved up to our days.

The city in architecture and monuments

The Peter and Paul Fortress was laid on the 16th of 1703 on the Zayachy Island by the decree of Peter I, who created its construction plan together with the French engineer Joseph-Gaspard Lambert de Guerin. In the project of the fortress there are six bastions (Gosudarev, Narishkin, Menshikov, Zotov, Trubetskoy, Golovkin), connected together with the curtain walls (Vasilievskaya, Ekaterininskaya, Kronverkskaya, Nevskaya, Nikolskaya, Petrovskaya) and two ravelins (Alekseevsky and Ioannovsky). Ioannovsky bridge connected Zayachiy Island and Petrogradskaya side in 1703. The most important construction on the territory of the Peter and Paul fortress is the Peter and Paul cathedral, which was erected here in 1712-1713. A lot of masters took part in the construction and repairing process of the cathedral after the war: the lead architect - Italian D. Trezzini, the spire of the cathedral was made by Harmen van Bol'es, gilded covered iconostasis - by I. P. Zarudniy, stucco décor - by C. Rossi and A. Quadri, the paintings - by G. Gzel and V. Yaroshevsky, the chiming clock - by B. Oort Krase, bronze Tsar's gates - by A. I. Karau and many others. Since the reign of Peter the Great the cathedral became the burial place for the members of the Royal Family. Among the buildings of the Peter Paul cathedral there are also Grand Ducal Burial Vault, the Mint, the Boat house, The Commandant's house, the Carriage room, the prison, the Crownwork, Engineer's house and other. The tradition to celebrate something by the shut out of a cannon from the Narishkin Bastion formed only in 1730s, later the salvos signified the beginning and the end of the day. However, this tradition became the daily one only since 1973. In 1934 it was decided to stop the salvos, but since 1957 it was revived. In the XIX century from the 11 a.m. till 12 a.m. wonderful music of the orchestra was heard from the Peter and Paul fortress. During the October Revolution 1917 the garrison of the Peter and Paul fortress supported the Bolsheviks, who took up arms against the Provisional Government. And during the storm of the Winter Palace, the weapon blank shots were made from the Peter and Paul fortress. Nowadays, the Peter and Paul fortress - is the part of the State museum of the History of Saint-Petersburg.

L Captivating views

While you walk along the upper platform of the Nevskaya curtain wall (also known as “Nevskaya Panorama”) from Gosudarev to Narishkin bastions, the wonderful view over the heart of the city opens right in front of you: Palace embankment, Spit of the Vasilevsky Island, Trinity and Palace bridges, the Admiralty and the Saint Isaac’s Cathedral. From the roof of the fortress wall you can enjoy the group of the buildings of the Peter and Paul Fortress, see the Memorial sign on the Gosudarev bastion, which marks the beginning of the construction of Saint-Petersburg, to observe the upper walls of the Flag tower with the flagstaff mast and 14 meter jack on its top. Daily at midday you can witness the ritual of the symbolical midday shot.

Palace Square



Palace Square
Admiralteyskaya
59.938875,30.316159

0 ч. 20 мин.

Palace Square is the heart of Saint-Petersburg, its main square. Winter Palace, consisting the square ensemble, is the prominent architectural monument, which is worldwide famous as the State Museum Hermitage. Alexander Column, which is located in the centre of the square - is one of the main symbols of Saint-Petersburg.

L The most well-known sights - Must see!

Palace Square is located in the very centre of Saint-Petersburg and is considered as the main one. It is famous not only with its width (although, it is at least twice bigger than the Red Square in Moscow), but also with its architectural monuments, which form it. Tourists from all over the world feel obligated to visit it.

L The city in architecture and monuments

Formerly, the square was called Admiralteisky Lug and included the territory of the Alexander Garden. The square got its name in 1766 because of the main building the Winter Palace, which was constructed in the middle of the XVIII century according to the design F. B. Rastrelli (the construction process took almost ten years). The inner decoration was created by the other masters – Y. M. Felten, J. – B. Wallin de La Mothe, A. Rinaldi. The Palace has three storey; four wings together with the inner garden and facades form the shape of the caret. The Winter Palace looks very light, but impressive and solemn at the same time. Vases and sculptures, which are set on the ledges around the perimeter of the building, make it look even more triumphal. Originally they were made of stone, but in the turn of the XIX-XX centuries were replaced by the metal one. Such buildings as Glazov House, Lanskoj House, Bruse House were constructed after the Winter Palace. All of these buildings were erected an arc of a circle and later were named Feltonovskie by the name of the architect Y. M. Felten, who designed them. Years later on the spot of these houses the General Staff Building was built (design by C. Rossi), however the main proportions and the location were preserved. Two wings of the central part were connected by the arch. All this construction represents the arc of almost 600 meters length. Triumphal Arch – is one of the main monuments, which was erected in honor of the Patriotic War 1812. Such masters as S. S. Pimenov, V. – I. Demut-Malinovsky worked on it. The arch is decorated with bas-reliefs and adorns the entrance to the square from the Nevsky Prospekt. In 1837-1843 the building of the guard corps headquarters was constructed on the opposite side. The Alexander Column was erected a little bit earlier and still has a status of the highest column in world, made of the stone monolith. On its top there is a sculpture of an angel (design by A. Montferrand), who tramples the snake, - the symbol of the peace, which Russia brought in Europe by defeating of the common enemy – Napoleon.

R Captivating views

Architectural monuments and sights, located on the Palace Square, form wonderful combination and represent great panorama. All the objects are illuminated during the night time and the square looks even more beautiful. Nowadays, a lot of concerts and events are held here. Also, the Palace Square is in the list of the world heritage of UNESCO.

Field of Mars



- 1st Admiralteisky Island
- Nevskiy Prospekt, Gostiny Dvor
- 59.943545,30.331596

- 1 ч.

Field of Mars is the biggest memorial and park complex, which is located in the centre of Saint-Petersburg. The park ensemble with the monument to the victims of the revolution of 1917, in the centre of which the Eternal Flame burns in honor of the dead for more than 50 years, is one of the prominent ones in the city.

R The most well-known sights - Must see!

The Field of Mars, which was named by analogy with the Field of Mars in Rome and Paris, is the biggest public garden on the territory of Saint-Petersburg and is located in the very centre of the city. This park memorial, dedicated to the victims of wars and revolutions, is associated with the history of the Northern Capital.

R Military and political history

Formerly, this territory was named as Bolshoi Lug (Big meadow), but that was in the beginning of the XVIII century, at the time of the erecting of Saint-Petersburg. The bog throughout the area was drained and that fact laid the foundation for the future park. After that the park changed its name for a few decades: Poteshnoe Pole (Fun field) because of the mass celebrations, which were held here, Tsaritsin Lug (Tsar's meadow) in honor of the located near "Tsar's house". The park got its modern name after the setting of the monument to A. V. Suvorov, because the sculpture depicted in the armor of Mars – war god. On the 7th of April 1918 the memorial was opened, the architect of which was L. V. Rudnev. The text for the monument was created by writer and arts critic A.V. Lunacharsky, famous artists such as N. A. Tyrsa and V. M. Konashevich worked on the appearance of the monument. The first ones, who were buried on the Field of Mars, were the dead during the February revolution 1917. The participants of uprisings, and the ones, who stifled the rebellion, and party workers, and Soviet workers and many others were buried here later. The most part of the first half of the XX century the Field of Mars was called the Victims of the Revolution Square. The Eternal Flame, which today attracts a lot of tourists, was lightened in the heart of the memorial in 1957 – by the way, it was the first eternal flame in Russia.

R Man and nature

The park was designed in a classic style, which emphasizes the solemn nature of the memorial. Besides the fact, that the Field of Mars is located in the very centre of Saint-Petersburg, it is one of those places in the city, where you can relax from the city fuss and enjoy the nature and, of course, pay tribute to the fallen.

W Following the famous personalities, books, movies

The following famous people were buried on the Field of Mars: propagandist and agitator V. Volodarsky, the Commissioner of the Latvian Riflemen S. M. Nakhimson, Soviet military figure R. Sivers, "hero of the revolution" Kotya Mgebrov-Chekan and many others found their peace here.

Winter Canal



- Bolshaya Neva, reka Moika
- Admiralteyskaya

-

The unique view opens over the Neva River from the bridges of the Winter Canal, the architectural ensemble of the canal is also worth of notice.

R The city in architecture and monuments

Winter Canal gathers Moika River and Big Neva River in Winter Palace area. The canal was dug in 1718-1719s according to a project and under management of constructor V. Ozerov, who was one of the main contractors chargeable for building of the new city that time. Only in 1782-1784 embankments of the canal were made in granite, until then, they were wooden and in some places even sandy. Sculptor J. Dunker created the cast-iron fences, preserved until now. As well as other rivers and canals, Winter Canal changed its name many times, originally, from 1738 to 1768 it was the Old Palace Canal, then, up to the beginning of 1780s - Post embankment, later in 1828 - Winter Canal itself.

W Captivating views

Undoubtedly, Winter Canal is one of the most popular points of interest in Saint-Petersburg. It is inexcusable not to take a boat trip excursion while visiting "Northern capital". You should choose the route, which runs right through Winter Canal. Despite its short extent, the 228 meter length and 20 meter wide canal can open in front of you the wonderful views over city sights from its embankments as well as from its surface, if you are on a boat trip.


W Love and romance


There are three beautiful bridges across the canal - First Winter, Second Winter and Hermitage ones. These bridges are very interesting from the architectural point of view, but there is one legend, which makes them even more interesting. This legend is based on a real story. According to it, the Hermitage bridge was mentioned in the third act of the opera "Queen of Spades" by P. Tchaikovsky - Liza plunged into the water exactly of Winter Canal, when crazy Herman leaved her. This story is not in the original novel by A. Pushkin. It appeared after P. Tchaikovsky in 1890 send a paper cut from "Peterburgskie Vedomosti" to his brother Modest. In this paper cut there was a notice about some Julia Perova, who in 1868 committed a suicide by plunging into the water from Hermitage bridge in Winter Canal. M. Tchaikovsky decided to put this tragic scene in opera's libretto. That is why the second name of the bridge is "Liza's bridge".

Pevchesky bridge and capella




 naberezhnaya Reki Moyki

 Admiralteyskaya, Nevskiy Prospekt, Gostiny Dvor

 59.939832,30.319335



 0 ч. 20 мин.

Amazing view opens over the Moika River from the Pevchesky bridge. The architectural ensemble of the Pevchesky bridge and the State Academic Chapel of Saint Petersburg is the object of the cultural heritage, which is worth of notice.

R The city in architecture and monuments

The ensemble of Saint-Petersburg Court Capella and Pevchesky Bridge is the object of cultural heritage of Russian Federation. It is not possible to describe the whole beauty of this ensemble. Pevchesky Bridge spans from Kazansky Island to 2d Admiralty Island, and, despite its small length, this bridge is the fourth one among the widest bridges in Saint-Petersburg. It is 72 meters wide. The bridge itself appeared in its original look in 1834, after six years, on the 24th of November 1840 it was solemnly opened. The bridge was designed and constructed by the famous engineer E. Adam. It was opened by the ceremonial arrival of Nicholas I - unexampled event in the history. Pevchesky Bridge is a unique one, it has no prototype in the whole world, and it was a real masterpiece of engineering for its time. 329 cast-iron wedge-shaped caisson boxes build an arch, above which the smooth brick vault is paved. Piers of the laying itself are faced with granite and set up on individual wooden piles. Quartzitic sandstone of the rare pink-grey tint was used for the bridge paving. Pevchesky Bridge is crowned with cast-iron tracery massive fence, which was made according to the special order. The bridge got its name thanks to Capella building (Pevcheskaya Capella), which adjoins the bridge. Earlier it was one of the "colour" bridges and was named Zheltyi (Yellow) Bridge. These "colour" bridge were quite the same, so citizens gave such names to bridges for not being confused, because formerly there were trading rows near the bridges, which were an reference point for people to meet. Saint-Petersburg Court Capella (Pevcheskaya Capella) - one of the constitutive structure of the musical and cultural environment of Saint-Petersburg. Court Capella is an alma mater of the philharmonic orchestra, as well as native walls for the Russian choral collective, which was found in XV century. Saint-Petersburg Court Capella is a complex of buildings, which faces the Moika River embankment and Bolshaya Konyushennaya Street. From the middle of the XVIII century there was a country-house right on this spot. That house belonged to the surgeon C. Paulsen. And do not be so surprised, this three kilometers to the spot, where the city began its glorious history, was just enough for the construction of a country residence. In 1773 that house was sold to the famous architect Y. Felton. He built here the new stone mansion , where he lived up to 1810. That is exactly the time, when Saint-Petersburg Court Capella was situated here. In the end of XIX century architect L. Benois reconstructed the building and for three years he managed to create the whole new appearance of this edifice. The concert hall of Court Capella is a unique one and is acknowledged by right as one of the best for its acoustical characteristics.

W Captivating views

Pevchesky Bridge and Saint-Petersburg Court Capella - is the part of the big ensemble of Palace Square. From this place you may see the great General Staff building and the square itself, and, of course, Alexander Column, which was glorified by Alexander Pushkin.