

"Golden Ring" of St. Petersburg

"Golden Ring" of St. Petersburg is the walking excursion throughout the city, during which you can take detour along the city center and see the most popular places and sights. This route is the ideal one for those, who want to see the main sight of St. Petersburg in a short space of time.



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 is 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 Isaac's Cathedral and the Colonnade



Isaakiyevskaya Ploshchad', 4
Admiralteyskaya, Nevskiy Prospekt, Gostiny Dvor
59.933893,30.306383

+7(812)315-97-32
www.eng.cathedral.ru
1 ч.

Saint Isaac's Cathedral is the biggest Orthodox church in Saint-Petersburg, has the museum status. It is the prominent monument of Russian classicism style. Wonderful panorama opens over the city from the colonnade.

Admission fee

Entrance tickets: for adults - 250 RUR, for ISIC holders - 150 RUR, for young people (7 to 18 years old) - 50 RUR. Audio guide (in Russian, English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Finnish, Japanese, Chinese and Korean) - 200 RUR. St Isaac's Cathedral Colonnaded Walkway. Audio excursion "Panoramic View of St Petersburg" - 150 RUR.

L The most well-known sights - Must see!

Saint Isaac's Cathedral is one of the main sights of the "Northern capital", which amazes with its beauty and sizes. For all comers inside the cathedral it is possible to order an excursion for both, groups and individuals. Also, you can use audio guide service to learn about the history of the cathedral and its inner decoration and particular features.

L Religion and philosophy

The cathedral was consecrated in honor of the Saint Isaac of Confessor (Isaac the Dalmatian), which was highly esteemed by Peter the Great. Per se, Saint Isaac's Cathedral is the museum complex since 1991, but services are held here during the Orthodox holidays. Besides, in 1712 the wedding ceremony of Peter the Great and Catherine Alekseevna took place in the first building of the cathedral. Russian Orthodox Church never gave the special status to the cathedral, so that is why it is not officially a cathedral, however, known all over the world as Saint Isaac's Cathedral.

L The city in architecture and monuments

The construction of Saint Isaac's Cathedral began in 1818 and lasted for forty years! It was finished in 1858. The main architect is considered to be Auguste de Montferrand, but, of course, not only he took part in such a scale construction, but also a lot of key persons of that time. That fact seems to make some special impact in to the image of the building, bring some extraordinary energy to its facades. The colonnades are adorned with the figures of twelve apostles, which rose up to the arches and appeared around the cupola. White facing marble, paintings and mosaics, canvases and frescos - the number of masterpieces exceeds all real expectations. There are three altars in the cathedral, which are worthy of notice. It is hard to describe such things, which when you look at them, you just lost the ability to speak. Inside the cathedral you also can see the prototype of scaffolding, which was used in lifting and setting up of colonnades process. Each of its colonnades weighted more than 100 tones. Stay here for a while and imagine the scale of what happened here 200 years ago, when this particular walls were about o be erected.

L Captivating views

The cupola of Saint Isaac's Cathedral with its great sizes was set on 72 colonnades, at that, they all are monolithic. The colonnades, which were lifted up on a height of more than 40 meters - is a real miracle of the engineering. After all, even modern technologies are not always manage to solve such difficult tasks, so there is no need to tell how hard it was to do it that time.

The unique view, which is famous not only among citizens, but also numerous tourists of the city, opens up from the colonnade over Saint-Petersburg. The whole centre of Saint-Petersburg lies spread before the eyes - the Neva River, the Admiralty, Mariinsky Palace. However, you should remember that the height of the colonnade is 43 meters, almost 600 steps and it is better to count on your strengths only. The weather in Saint-Petersburg is always unpredictable, so even during summer time, you may need some warm cloth, just in case.

R The sights - record-holders

Saint Isaac's Cathedral by its height can be compared only to the Cathedral of Christ the Savior in Moscow with 103 meters height, which is just 1.5 meters higher than Saint Isaac's Cathedral. Thus, it was the second highest Orthodox church in the world and the oldest one as well. There are the analogies with the St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, St. Paul's Cathedral in London and St. Marie Cathedral in Florence. Saint Isaac's Cathedral yields to its counterparts by its sizes, but in the sphere of engineering and constructing technologies Saint-Isaac's Cathedral takes the lead over them, as well as the whole engineering of its time.

R Military and political history

As well as many other churches, Saint Isaac's Cathedral was plundered during the first days of the revolution in 1917, after which not the best times began. In 1921 the cathedral was closed, and in the beginning of 1930s severely and ironically the first antireligious museum was opened here. During the war building was damaged by shelling and bomb attacks. Even today you can see the signs of shell and bomb hits on the facades of the cathedral. After the war the cathedral worked as a museum up to 1948. In 1950s the scale reconstruction was held and renewed cathedral opened its doors. In honor of the sixtieth anniversary of Victory the exposition, which consists of the displays, which were brought from the city's and suburb's museums, was set in the cathedral. It is dedicated to the Great Patriotic War and the Siege of Leningrad.

Kazan Cathedral



📍 Kazanskaya Ploshchad', 2
🗨 Nevskiy Prospekt, Gostiny Dvor
📞 59.934634,30.324667

📞 +7(812)570-45-28
🌐 www.kazansky-spb.ru
🕒 1 ч.

Kazan Cathedral is the biggest Orthodox church, wonderful example of Russian classicism style, prominent monument of military glory. Inside the cathedral there is the wonder-working copy of the Holy icon Our Lady of Kazan.

Admission fee

Free

L The most well-known sights - Must see!

Kazan Cathedral is one of the most prominent monuments of architecture and fine art, as well as the biggest churches in Saint-Petersburg.

L Religion and philosophy

Kazan Cathedral was erected for the wonder-working copy of the Holy icon Our Lady of Kazan, which is one of the main Orthodox shrines of Saint-Petersburg. Other venerable icons in Kazan Cathedral are: the icon of the Savior in iconostasis, icons of Saint Nicholas and Black Madonna of Czestochowa, presented by field marshal M. Kutuzov, Calvary with a granule of the tomb of Jesus, icon of the Resurrection with a granule of the tomb of Jesus. In 1932 in the church there was the Museum of atheism and religion, since 1991 Kazan Cathedral is a functional Orthodox church, and since 2000 - it is the cathedral of Saint-Petersburg eparchy of Russian Orthodox Church. Nowadays divine services take place every day here as well as christenings and wedding ceremonies, church services and services for dead.

L The city in architecture and monuments

Kazan Cathedral was built in 1801-1811 by the architect A. Voronikhin in classicism style. For his work the architect was awarded with the Fourth class of the Saint Vladimir Order. Kazan cathedral was erected instead of the ramshackle church of the Nativity of the Theotokos. In 1930s the cathedral was robbed and closed in 1932. In 1950-1960s the restoration works were held. In 1991 services were resumed. The second consecration of Kazan Cathedral took place in 1998.

R Military and political history

After the Patriotic War of 1812 Kazan Cathedral became the monument of military glory of Russia. There is a grave of renowned field marshal M. Kutuzov, also there are 107 trophy French banners and flags of the regiments, which were crushed, 93 keys of fortresses and cities, which were captured by Russian Army. In front of the cathedral there are two bronze statues of the great Russian military leaders M. Kutuzov and M. Barclay de Tolly, which were designed by B. Orlovsky in 1837.

Marble Palace



📍 Millionnaya Ulitsa, 5/1

📞 +7(812)595-42-48

 Nevskiy Prospekt, Gostiny Dvor
 59.945055,30.326618

 www.rusmuseum.ru/eng/museum/co
 1 ч. 30 мин.

Marble Palace is a department of the Russian Museum complex. Marble Palace was built by the order of the Empress Catherine II for her minion Count G. Orlov in 1768-1785 by architect A. Rinaldy. Subsequently the palace was used as a residence for the noble family. It was called marble because the granite and different kind of marble were used in decoration of the outer fronts and inner interior of the palace. On the first floor there is the memorial museum of Grand Duke Konstantin Romanov - great poet of Silver Age. Also there is a permanent exhibition "The collection of Rzhevsky Brothers" (gift of Rzhevsky Brothers for the State Russian Museum) and "Ludwig Museum in Russian Museum", which enclues the paintings of modern European, Russian and American artists. Collectors Peter and Iren Ludwig gave these paintings to the Russian Museum as a present. This exposition enable to retrace the development of Russian art in terms of world artistic culture.

Admission fee

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

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.

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 Trekhproletniy 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 over 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.

The Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood



- 📍 Kanal Griboyedova, 26A
- 🗺️ Nevskiy Prospekt, Gostiny Dvor
- 📞 59.940213,30.328884

- ☎️ +7(812) 315-16-36
- 🌐 www.eng.cathedral.ru/spasa_na_
- 🕒 1 ч.

The Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood is the prominent architectural monument, the biggest Orthodox church of the city, which was erected on the place of death of the emperor. One of the biggest collections of mosaic decoration in Europe. The church has a museum status.

Admission fee

Entrance tickets: for adults - 250 RUR, for ISIC holders - 150 RUR, for young people (7 to 18 years old) - 50 RUR. Audio guide (in Russian, English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Finnish, Japanese, Chinese and Korean) - 200 RUR.

L The most well-known sights - Must see!

Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood, also known as the Church of the Resurrection of Christ, is one of the most prominent monuments of Russian architecture. Its outer decoration and the interior are the real masterpiece and annually attract a lot of tourists from all over the world. The audio guide service is available for visitors.

L Religion and philosophy

Since its consecration on the 19th of August 1907, the church of the Savior on Spilled Blood was not a parish church and was not meant for mass visiting. Here the certain services, devoted to the memory of Alexander II, were held. In 1920 it was decided to give the temple to the parish. In 1923 the church became a cathedral of Petrograd eparchy. In 1930 by the decree of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee the cathedral was closed. During the Siege of Leningrad in the cathedral there was a morgue, here all the dead were brought. After the war the church was taken by Maly Opera Theatre for storing all its decorations. In 1971 the temple was transferred to the balance of "Saint Isaac's Cathedral" museum. In 1997 the museum-monument "Savior on the Spilled Blood" was opened again for visitors. On the 23 of May 2004 the first liturgy after 70-year break was served.

L The city in architecture and monuments

The cathedral was built in 1883-1907 by architect A. Parland and Archimandrite Ignatius (Malyshev). The church of the Savior on Spilled Blood got its name because it stands on the spot where Alexander II, the Emperor of Russia, was mortally wounded on 1 March 1881. Then it was decided to build a chapel on the attempt spot. In 1881 the temporary chapel was consecrated and memorable services for the dead were held in it. In 1883 the construction of the new church began, it lasted 24 years. In the décor of the church different decoration materials were used - brick, marble, granite, enamels, gilded copper and mosaic - that made the image of the church such vivid and outstanding. Inside the church there is a real mosaic museum, the area of the mosaic covering is 7065 square meters. Also in the church you may see the richest collection of the semiprecious stones, jewelry enamel, colored ornamented tiles, which were made by the best artists. The special place in the church is the canopy right on the spot where Alexander II was wounded.

Russian Museum



📍 Inzhenernaya Ulitsa, 4
🗺️ Gostiny Dvor, Nevskiy Prospekt
📞 59.938547,30.332197

☎️ +7(812)595-42-48
🌐 en.rusmuseum.ru/about/tickets/
🕒 1 ч. 30 мин.

The collection of Russian Museum is the biggest one in the world, there are the best works of the great Russian artists, many of which are the real masterpieces.

Admission fee

Entrance tickets: for adults - 450 RUR, for students - 200 RUR.

L The most well-known sights - Must see!

Russian Museum is the first state museum of Russian fine art in the country. Its unique collection is the biggest in the world. The main part of the collection is concentrated in the Mikhailovsky Palace and Benois Wing. Also museum complex includes Marble Palace, Stroganov Palace, Saint Mikhael's Castle, Summer Garden with House of Peter the Great and Mikhailovsky Garden. Annually 50 exhibitions take place in the Russian museum. Here you can use audio guide or order the excursion with guide-interpreter.

L Pictorial, photo, decorative and applied arts

Nowadays the collection of the museum contains approximately 400000 exhibits (paintings, graphic arts, sculptures, numismatic pieces, decorative and applied arts, as well as archive documents) and covers all directions and schools, all historic periods and tendencies of Russian art between the X and XXI centuries. In the collection of the museum you can see icons of XII-XV centuries, paintings of such masters as A. Rublev, Dionisius, S. Ushakov and others; the collection of the XVIII-XIX centuries represented by such artists as K. Bryullov, O. Kiprensky, A. Venetsianov, F. Bruni, M. Kozlovsky, S. Shchedrin; the second part of XIX century represented of the paintings of A. Savrasov, I. Aivazovsky, A. Naumov, F. Vasilyev, F. Bronnikov, I. Pryanishnikov, V. Vasnetsov, V. Surikov and others; works by I. Levitan, M. Vrubel, V. Serov, P. Troubetzkoy consist the collection of XIX-XX centuries; also in the museum there masters of "Art world" - A. Benois, K. Somov, K. Korovin, B. Kustodiev, N. Roerich, R. Bach; the soviet art is represented by K. Petrov-Vodkin, V. Mukhina, Y. Tulin, Y. Moiseenko, B. Korneev, A. Eriomin and other. Annually in Russian museum up to 50 exhibitions are held. Also in the museum there are Scientific library, which founds numbers 170 000 items. In the library there are several founds: found of Russian books, found of foreign editions, found of periodicals, exhibition catalogues, editions of Russian Museum, reference found. Also in the library there are the found of rare books, which collects nowadays approximately 7000 items.

R The city in architecture and monuments

Russian Museum was established in 1895 by the decree of the Emperor Nicolas II. The building of the museum (also known as Mikhailovsky Palace) was constructed in 1819-1825 by famous architect C. Rossi. Originally the initiative of the palace constructing belonged to the Emperor Paul I for his son Michael. However Paul I died before the construction began, then his elder son emperor Alexander I decided to implement father's plan. When Michael turned 21 years, Alexander I gave an order to start the construction. Rossi designed not only the palace but the whole project, which included the Mikhailovsky palace itself, the square in front of it, two streets (Inzenernaya and Mikhailovskaya) and Mikhailovsky Garden. The outer appearance of the main building and western wing were preserved till our days almost without modifications. Today only two rooms represent the former splendor of the palace's chambers and the talent of architect - the vestibule and the White Hall. They both are undoubted masterpieces of classic interior. The main vestibule is outstanding with its wide grand staircase divided in two parts, which lead to the second-floor gallery decorated with 18 sublime Corinthian columns. In 1825 the Mikhailovsky palace was consecrated. After that Michael with his wife moved here from the Winter Palace. For a long time the Mikhailovsky Palace was the grand residence. In 1898 in the building of the Mikhailovsky Palace the Russian Museum was opened, which is located here nowadays. In 1910-1914 due to the increase of the museum's collection the new wing was attached. It was named after its architect L. Benois (The Benois Wing).

Menshikov Palace



- Universitetskaya Naberezhnaya, 15
- Vasileostrovskaya
- 59.938644,30.295274

- +7(812)323-11-12
- www.hermitagemuseum.org/wps/po
- 1 ч.

Menshikov Palace is the residence, which was built for the first Saint-Petersburg governor General Alexander Menshikov. The Palace was built in 1710-1721 by architects G.Fontana and G. Schadel. Menshikov Palace is the first stone building in Saint-Petersburg. The building is the impressive example of Petrine Baroque style. The two-colored vivid facade painting, pilasters with carved capitals make the facade look magnificent. The interior of the palace looks ceremonial as well, for its decoration the most expensive materials were used, which were imported or custom-made by Russian masters. The palace items were picked out from the Hermitage Museum's collection, which houses the property not only of Russian tsars but also of noble families.

Admission fee

Entrance ticket - 300 RUR

Kunstkamera



- Universitetskaya Naberezhnaya, 3
- Admiralteyskaya, Nevskiy Prospekt, Gostiny Dvor
- 59.941382,30.303629

- +7(812)328-14-12
- www.kunstkamera.ru/en/
- 1 ч. 30 мин.

Kunstkamera is the first museum in the city and one of the most interesting ones in Saint-Petersburg. Since XVIII the building of Kunstkamera is a symbol of Russian Academy of Sciences. The collection of rarities and anatomical anomalies. The Globe of Gottorf - the first and the biggest in the world globe-planetarium.

Admission fee

Entrance ticket: for adults - 300 RUR, for schoolchildren, students - 100 RUR

L The most well-known sights - Must see!

Kunstkamera, also known as Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography, is not only one of the most interesting museums in Saint-Petersburg, but also one of the most popular ones among tourists and inhabitants. Its wonderful collection will interest both, adults and kids.

L The city in architecture and monuments

Kunstkamera is the first museum in Russia, it was founded by Peter the Great in 1727. The building of the museum was constructed in 1718-1734 by the design of the architect G. Mattarnovy, it is the oldest museum building in the world. Since the beginning of the XVIII century the building of Kunstkamera is the symbol of Russian Academy of Sciences, because right here Saint-Petersburg Academy of Sciences, which was founded by Peter I, was situated. The Academy is the birthplace of the present Russian Academy of Sciences, Saint-Petersburg State University, Library of the Academy of Sciences, The Main Astronomical observatory and many other Russian scientific and museum institutions. The museum was established with one main goal - exploration and research of the rarities, which were made by nature and man.

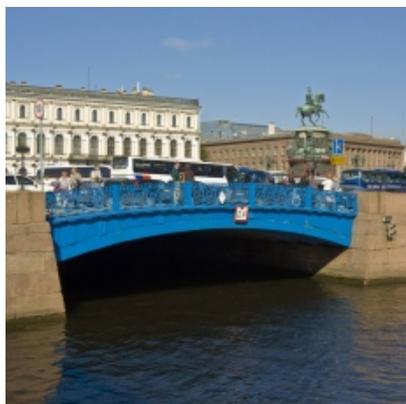
R Civilization: the science and technology progress, the household mode, industrial city

Nowadays the museum collection is one of the most interesting and complete among such kinds of the collections all over the world. The collection contains over 2000000 items and displays a variety of the cultures and peoples of the Old World and the New World, which are presented in the following sections: "North America", "Japan", "Africa", "China and Mongolia", "India and Indonesia", "Australia and Oceania". However Anatomical section attracts visitors the most, there are exhibits with different anatomical deformities and natural anomalies. Also in the museum there are expositions devoted to the history of Kunstkamera and history of the Russian science in XVIII century ("M. Lomonosov and the Academy of Science of XVIII century, "The first astronomical observatory of the Academy of Science" and "The Globe of Gottorf").

R Interesting for children

In the museum the special focus is made on the work with kids. The program for children "My Kunstkamera" includes different excursions, game-lessons, contests, festivals, routes, which make visiting of the museum more interesting for kids. The most popular exposition among children - "The Globe of Gottorf" - it is the first and in former times the biggest globe-planetarium in the world, its diameter is 3.1 meters. The Globe was constructed in 1664 in Gottorf duchy, the author of this project is A. Olearius. 10 July 1713 the diocesan of Gottorf duchy Christian August signed an order to transfer the globe to Petersburg as a diplomatic present to Peter the Great. On 20 March 1717 it was brought to Petersburg, where later was set up in the building of Kunstkamera.

Blue Bridge



Isaakiyevskaya Ploshchad'
Admiralteyskaya
59.931791,30.308800



0 ч. 15 мин.

The Blue bridge spans the Moika River and joins together the Kazansky and Admiralty islands. The Blue bridge is the part of the Saint Isaac's Square ensemble and it is the widest bridge in the world - 97.3 meters. In 1737 on the spot of the modern bridge the wooden draw one was built, which was painted in blue color, that is how it get its name. Since 1738 the bridge started to be called the Blue one. In 1805 it was reconstructed by the typical project of the single-bay cast-iron arched bridge with granite facing by the architect and engineer V. Geste. In 1842-1844 due to the construction of the Mariinsky Palace the bridge was widened up to the Antonenko Street. It is interesting that the Blue bridge is called invisible thanks to its width, which makes it look like a part of the square.

Additional information:

You can enjoy the architectural image of the bridge twenty-four-hour.

Twelve Collegia building



Universitetskaya Naberezhnaya, 7/9
Vasileostrovskaya
59.941594,30.299304



 0 ч. 15 мин.

The Twelve Collegia building or Twelve Colleges on the Vasilyevsky Island is the architectural monument of the Petrine Baroque style. The Twelve Collegia building is one of the earliest ones on the Vasilyesky Island.

Additional information:

It is possible to enjoy the architectural image of this object twenty-four-hour.

R The city in architecture and monuments

The building was constructed in 1722-1742 by the original design of architect D. Trezzini and later by T. Schwertfeger and M. Zemtsov. The building was meant for the placement of Senate, Synod and the colleges - supreme bodies of government, which were established by Peter the Great in 1718. The Twelve Collegia is twelve three-storey buildings of the same size and architectural style, which are connected together. In the XVIII century each building had its own entrance. The architecture of the edifices is quite symbolic: it reflects the independence of each college and at the same time accentuates their correlation in the solution of state problems. In different times in the building of the Twelve Collegia there were supreme bodies of government, the State Pedagogical Institute and Saint-Petersburg State University. Nowadays the Twelve Collegia is still the main building of Saint-Petersburg State University. There are the science library and some administrative services of the university. In the building there is Peterovsky Hall, where different events are held as well as regular concerts for public.

Bronze Horseman and Senate Square



Senatskaya Ploshchad'
Admiralteyskaya
59.936532,30.302137



 0 ч. 20 мин.

Bronze Horseman on Senate Square - is the monument to the great Emperor Peter the First, which was glorified by famous Russian poet Alexander Pushkin. This monument is one of the main symbols of Saint-Petersburg.

L The most well-known sights - Must see!

Bronze Horseman - is a model of the equestrian statue of Peter the Great - it is the most famous monument to the Emperor. A lot of tourists come here, to Senate Square, to appreciate the beauty and monumentalism of this wonderful architectural memorial.

L The city in architecture and monuments

Monument to Peter I adorns the Senate Square - the most longstanding square of the Northern Capital. It dates from the beginning of the XVIII century. Earlier the Senate Square was the part of the square in front of the Admiralty, but with the loss of its purpose as a fortress, this territory turned into a municipal area. It got its name thanks to the government department Senate, located on this territory in 1763. The square formed in 1834. This had contributed by the construction of the Senate and Synod building in this area. The building, which was erected in the Russian classicism style under the management of the architect A. E. Shtauberd, is the architectural monument. The construction of the buildings was completely finished by 1832, the decoration of the inner interiors began. A lot of masters took part in stucco works, works with marble, furniture designs. Master Torrichelli created the most difficult elements of the decorative molding. In one of the corner halls there is a church. This temple was a unique one because of the fact, that it is the only one church with the cupola, equipped with the glass lantern.

The adjoining arch over Galernaya Street is the symbol of the unite of the state and the church. For the creation of this arch one of the designs by C. Rossi, which he didn't use in the ensemble of the Palace Square, was used. The height of the triumphal arch is more than 25 meters and its width is 20 meters.

The sculptural ensemble "Godliness and Justice" is located over the arch. The bas-reliefs, which decorates the arch, flashy with the allegories to the Russian legislation and glorify the power of the state.

For a very long time, since 1925, in the halls of the Senate and Synod building there was the Historical Archive of the Russian Federation. Nowadays, there is the Constitutional Court of Russia and Boris Yeltsin Presidential Library.

The Bronze Horseman got its name thanks to the poem of the same name by the great Russian poet Alexander Sergeevich Pushkin. The sculpture was designed by the architect E. Falconet by the decree of the Empress Catherine II and with the assistance of his apprentices and followers (in particular, the head was made by M. A. Collo, and the snake under the hooves of the stallion - by sculptor F. Gordeev). The base of the monument is the natural rock, also known as the "Thunder-stone", which is still covered with legends and rumors. The stone monolith, which height was supposed to be 11 meters and more, was needed. Thanks to the Academy of Arts such stone was founded in Lahta area. So, according to the legend, the lightning hit the rock but didn't break it and just made a crack. Since that time, this monolith was called the "Thunder-stone". The wavy shape of the stone reminds that Peter the Great created the "window" not just in Europe, but also to the sea for our country. Monoliths with the approximately similar mass were transported just in ancient time, so the moving of this stone in the XVIII century was a big deal.

L Following the famous personalities, books, movies

The snake under the stallion of the Emperor Peter I symbolizes the enemy, which threatened Russia in different times and with whom the great commander successfully fight. Allegory to his victory - laurel wreath and belt sword. The inscription on the pedestal says: "To Peter I from Catherine II. 1782". Catherine II always paralleled his acts and herself, considering herself as successor to his achievements.

Museum of the Russian Academy of Arts



Universitetskaya naberezhnaya, 17
Vasileostrovskaya
59.937331,30.290411

+7(812)323-35-78
www.nimrah.ru
1 ч. 30 мин.

Научно-исследовательский музей Российской Академии художеств один из интереснейших музеев города. Его удивительная коллекция не оставит равнодушными даже самых взыскательных любителей изобразительного искусства.

Admission fee

Entrance free - 150 RUR., for children - 30 RUR.

Opening hours

Wed. - Sun. - 11:00 a.m. - 06:00 p.m. Mon., Tue. - closed. To determine information on opening hours visit an official website.

Spit of Vasilyevsky Island



- Birzhevaya Ploshchad'
- Vasileostrovskaya
- 59.944158,30.306568



0 ч. 30 мин.

Spit of Vasilyevsky Island is one of the most prominent architectural ensembles of Saint-Petersburg, from which an amazing view over the Neva River and other architectural ensembles of the city opens up.

L The most well-known sights - Must see!

The Spit of Vasilyevsky Island is one of the most wonderful architectural ensembles of the city. Every day a lot of tourists and inhabitants come to the Spit to enjoy the beauty of ensemble and make great photos.

L The city in architecture and monuments

The Spit of Vasilyevsky Island is one of the greatest architectural ensembles of the city. It presents the stretched part of the island in its eastern side. The Spit began to be developed during the Peter's I times. He wanted to make it the cultural and business center of Saint-Petersburg. For that purpose in 1719-1721 the project of the architect Domenico Trezzini was created, which stipulated the construction of the government building on the territory of the spit: the Twelve Collegia building, the Stock Exchange, trade courtyard and the cathedral. Since 1720s the base of the Kunstkamera, trade place Gostiny Dvor was laid as well as the houses of Apraksin, Demidov, Naryshkin, Lopyhin families. In 1805-1810 the building of the Stock Exchange erected here and in front of it - the Rostral columns, which are one of the main symbols of the city (by architect J. Thomas de Thomon). The ensemble is completed with the buildings of the southern and northern warehouses and custom house, which were constructed by the design of the architect I. Lukini.

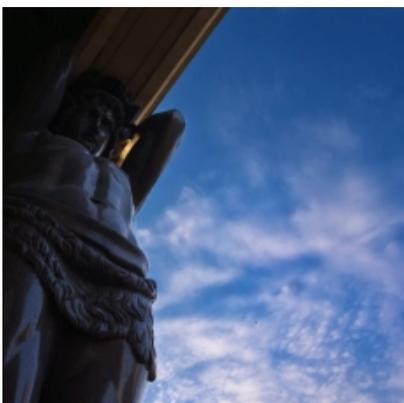
L Captivating views

The Spit of Vasilyevsky Island also attracts a lot of tourists thanks to an amazing view, which opens from it. From here you can enjoy the panorama of Palace Embankment and Winter Palace, Peter and Paul Fortress and Peter and Paul Cathedral, Summer Garden, Admiralty and the cupola of Saint Isaac's Cathedral.

R Love and romance

The Spit of Vasilyevsky Island is the beloved place for newlyweds, who go here every day to take their wedding photos, to smash glasses for luck and to wish each other happy family life. It is a common place for letting off white pigeons and making wishes. Also it is considered that ones, who kissed near Rostral columns, will never apart from each other.

Sculptures of Atlantis of the New Hermitage



- Millionnaya ulitsa, 35
- Admiralteyskaya, Nevskiy Prospekt, Gostiny Dvor
- 59.941073,30.317468



0 ч. 10 мин.

It is not possible not to notice these great sculptures, while walking along Millionnaya Street, because it is the main decoration of the New Hermitage building. Not many know about their magical power, in which a lot of citizens believe, as well as tourists.

Additional information:

Объект возможно осмотреть только снаружи (круглосуточно).

R The city in architecture and monuments

The famous Atlantes of the New Hermitage appear almost in each textbook of the history of art. According to the original project, during the construction of the New Hermitage building, which was initiated in 1837 after the fire in Winter Palace, it was planned to decorate the portico of the new building with sphinxes. However, that project was denied by the main architect L. Klenze, as well as the second one - with Egyptian pharaohs. The main architect remembered that he had his own project of the Royal Palace in Athens, which was not realized several years ago and was supposed to be the main museum in Greece. That is how the fate of the portico of the New Hermitage building was sealed. Sculptor A. Trebenev, who created the design of the atlantes by the drawing of J. Halbig, worked on the figures for almost five years. There is a supposition, according to which A. Trebenev worked on polishing of the atlantes by himself, not alone, of course, but managed the creating process over three years more, until they were finished. Atlantes were carved from granite and put on the pedestal from marble limestone. Up to the 1920s the portico with atlantes was the main entrance to the Hermitage. The history of atlantes is inseparably connected with the history of Saint-Petersburg. During the Blockade one of the atlantes was hit by one of the 30 shells, which damaged the Hermitage buildings.

R Mystic and cult places

Atlantes are one of the most popular legends of Saint-Petersburg. Newlyweds come here after their wedding to hold the big toes of the atlantes. There is a legends that it will bring happiness in marriage. During the walks around the city it is impossible to not notice this sculptures. They provoke almost mystical desire to touch them. That is why there are a lot of cups with alcohol on the pedestal. One more tradition was invented by female students of the numerous nearest educational institutions. During summer time they paint the atlantes toes with nail polish, apparently, showing their regard to handsome gods, which stand under the cloudy sky of Saint-Petersburg.

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 Admiralteysky 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.