

# 'Tolstoy tour' with Alexandra Tolstoy to Moscow and Yasnaya Polyana

October  
2019

## **Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October London - Moscow**

This morning we take flight BA235 at 10.55 hrs from London (LHR), arriving into Moscow (SVO) at 16.50 hrs.

On arrival we are met by our local guide and transferred by minibus to the 5\* National Hotel, in a prime location opposite Red Square.

## **Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> October Red Square / Tolstoy's House Museum, Moscow**

This morning we take a walking tour to Red Square, including a visit to the Cathedral of St Basil's, as well as GUM, the glamorous nineteenth-century shopping arcade that lines one side of the square. We can have a coffee at the Bosco Café in GUM, with tables directly on Red Square, facing the Kremlin.

From here we walk to lunch at Dr Zhivago restaurant, boasting some of the finest Russian cuisine in Moscow.

After lunch, we are transferred by minibus to Leo Tolstoy's House Museum in Khamovniki, formerly a suburb of Moscow. This afternoon we take a tour of the house with our guide and afterwards return to the hotel, with a short city tour en route from the minibus.

Tonight we have dinner in one of Moscow's restaurants, now a sophisticated scene to rival those of all other major world cities.

## **Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> October Tretyakov Gallery / Tula**

This morning we check out from the hotel, leaving our baggage, except for an overnight bag, in the luggage room. After breakfast we are transferred by minibus to the Tretyakov for a 'Tolstoy' tour of the famous Russian art gallery, focusing on paintings of Tolstoy and others that tell his life story.

We enjoy lunch at the nearby atmospheric Tretyakov Brothers restaurant, before transferring to Kursk Railway Station from where we take a fast train to Tula. On arrival at 18.00 hrs we are met by our local guide and can enjoy a walk around the city, including Tula Kremlin.

Dinner tonight is at Tula's Gosti restaurant, after which we are transferred by minibus (thirty minutes) to Yasnaya Polyana, Tolstoy's country estate. Here we stay in the estate museum's simple but clean B & B.

## **Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> October Yasnaya Polyana / Moscow**

This morning we enjoy a tour of Yasnaya Polyana, including Tolstoy's house, gardens and a visit to his grave.

Lunch is at the museum restaurant, after which we transfer back to Tula, visiting on the way Kozlova Zaseka Railway Station (from where Tolstoy set off for his final journey).

At 16.00 hrs we take the fast train to Moscow and are transferred back to the National Hotel on arrival.

This evening we can walk to a local Russian Orthodox choir-led church service, followed by dinner and drinks in one of the city's most fashionable restaurants.

## **Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> October Moscow**

After breakfast we check out of the hotel, leaving our baggage in the luggage room for the minibus to collect. From here we walk to the Kremlin, where we take a tour with our guide, including visits to the cathedrals and the Armoury Chamber.

From the Kremlin we walk up Moscow's central street, Tverskaya, to Café Pushkin, Moscow's most famous restaurant, for lunch.

After lunch we transfer to the airport (SVO) for flight BA234 at 18.10 hrs, arriving in LHR at 20.20 hrs.