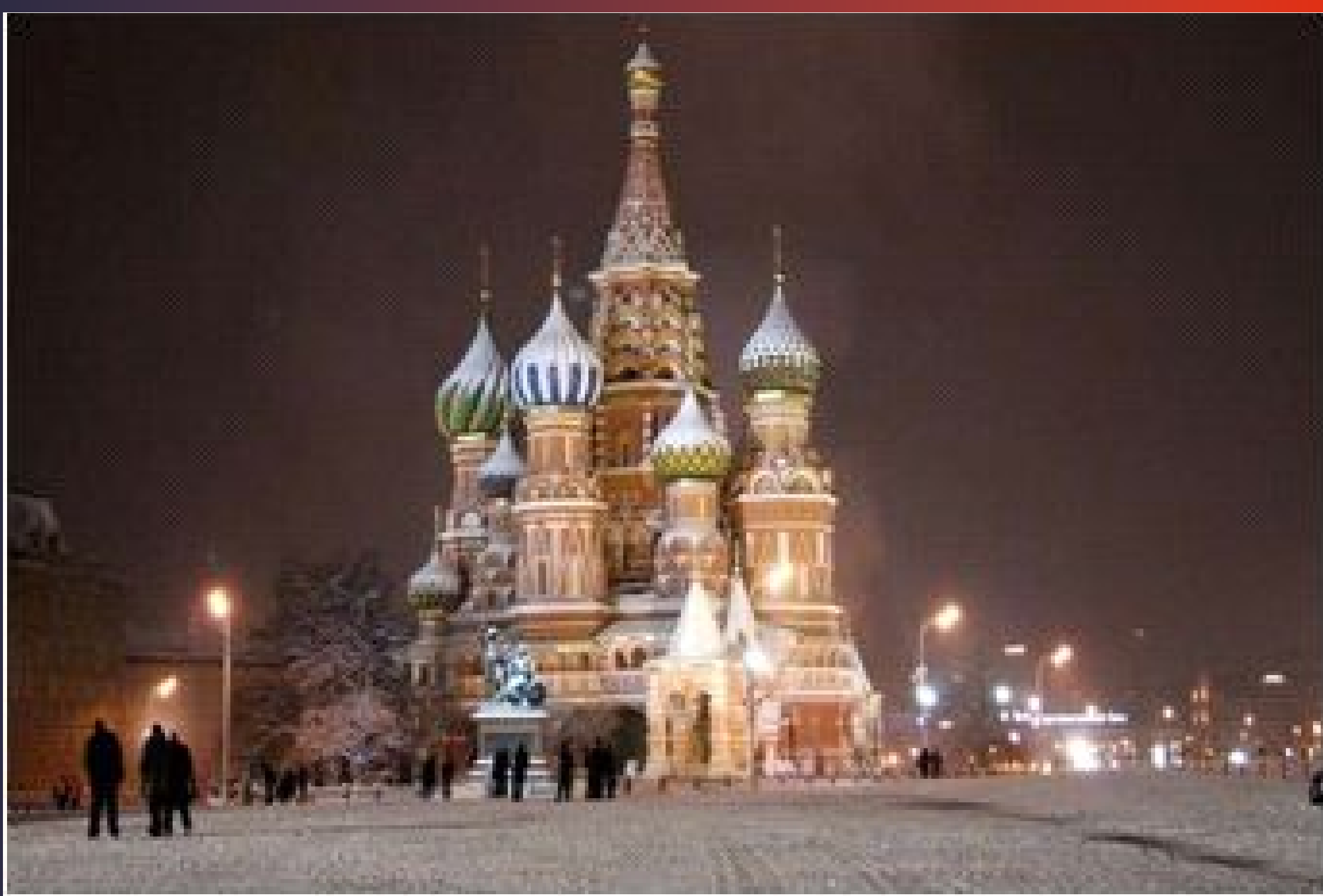


# WINTER DRIVE

*February 2022*







# RUSSIA

*Winter, in Russia is an exciting adventure .- Magnificent snow-covered landscapes and driving along picturesque lines of taiga and the frozen lakes. Experience the excellence of Russia's really well-known milestones and chronicled structures, for example, the Red Square, the Hermitage and Catherine's Winter Palace In Russia, under a relatively mystical fresh white cover of snow.*







# Moscow

DAY 1



*Moscow is an intriguing mix of culture, dance club, and history. During any season, at any hour of the day, Moscow thrills visitors with its artistry, history and majesty. The very founding site of the city, the Kremlin and Red Square are still at the heart of Moscow – historically, geographically and spiritually.*

*We have organised a sightseeing city tour. Our English speaking guide will show around the splendid beauty of Moscow. Enjoy a private walking tour of Russia's capital, with a visit to both the Kremlin, St. Basil Cathedral and Red Square.*





# Torzhok

**DAY 2** *Moscow to Torzok*



**242Kms**



*Our winter drive begins from Moscow to an ancient town, Torzhok covering a distance of approx 240 kms. Torzhok is a town in Tver Oblast, Russia, located on the Tvertsa River along the federal highway. The town is famous for its folk craft of goldwork embroidery. The real allure of Torzhok, however, is in its old city charm. Its left bank between the two bridges is lined with three-story mansions from the 18th century. Above them looms a small hill where the 18th-century Church of the Entry of the Lord Into Jerusalem stands watchful guard over the town.*



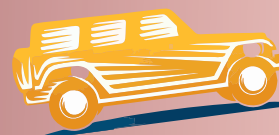




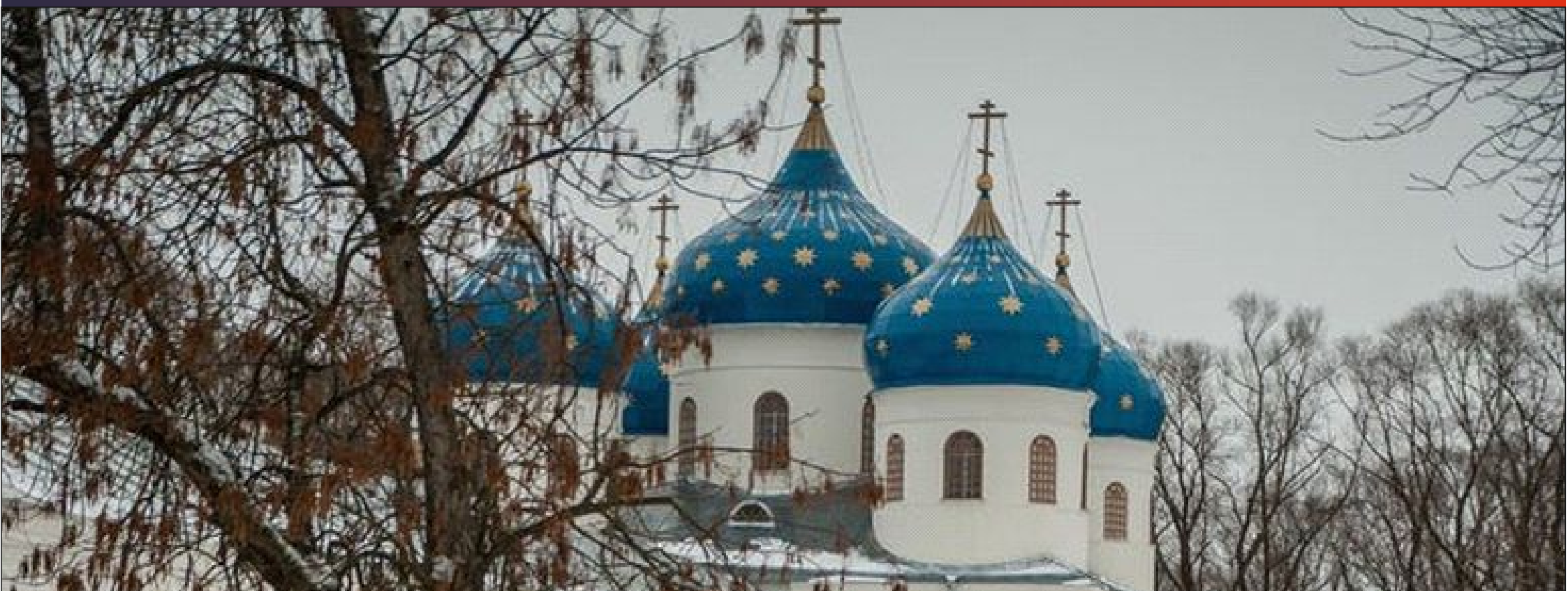
# Veliky Novgorod

DAY 3

Torzok to veliky Novgorod



448Kms



*After breakfast we head to Veliky Novgorod through Staraya Russa.*

*Admire the source of Volga River and experience off-road on the Ilmen Lake.*

*Located in the northwestern part of Russia, just where the Volkhov River flows into the Lake Ilmen, the ancient city of Veliky Novgorod has proudly been standing at the forefront of Russia's foundation. Immerse yourself in Russian history with a trip to Veliky Novgorod. The town is best known for its incredible medieval churches and monuments, including the 11th century St. Sophia Cathedral.*

*After check in the hotel there is an authentic russian folk dance program over dinner.*







# Verkhniye Mandrogi



Veliky Novgorod to Mandrogi



343Kms



*We start driving from Valiky Novogord to Mandrogi driving distance of 343 Kms. This is where we can find the most exquisite Matryoshka dolls; in the many gift shops you can see women hand painting intricate designs on dolls of every kind and more besides! The wooden houses are beautiful and you can amble off the beaten track to look at them by the shore of the river. They are all individually designed and very picturesque.*

*After a long drive we check in at our hotel followed by dinner.*

*I had done this Russia driving holiday a couple of years back with 3 other friends. From the moment we reached Moscow it was magic throughout. The routes were incredibly beautiful, the hotels luxurious and the food absolutely delectable. The husky ride, the hovercraft to Kizhi Island and the barbecue that ensued in the wilderness is something we will never forget. I highly recommend this tour for anyone looking for adventure, natural beauty and luxury all packed in one.*

*--Adit Mehrai*





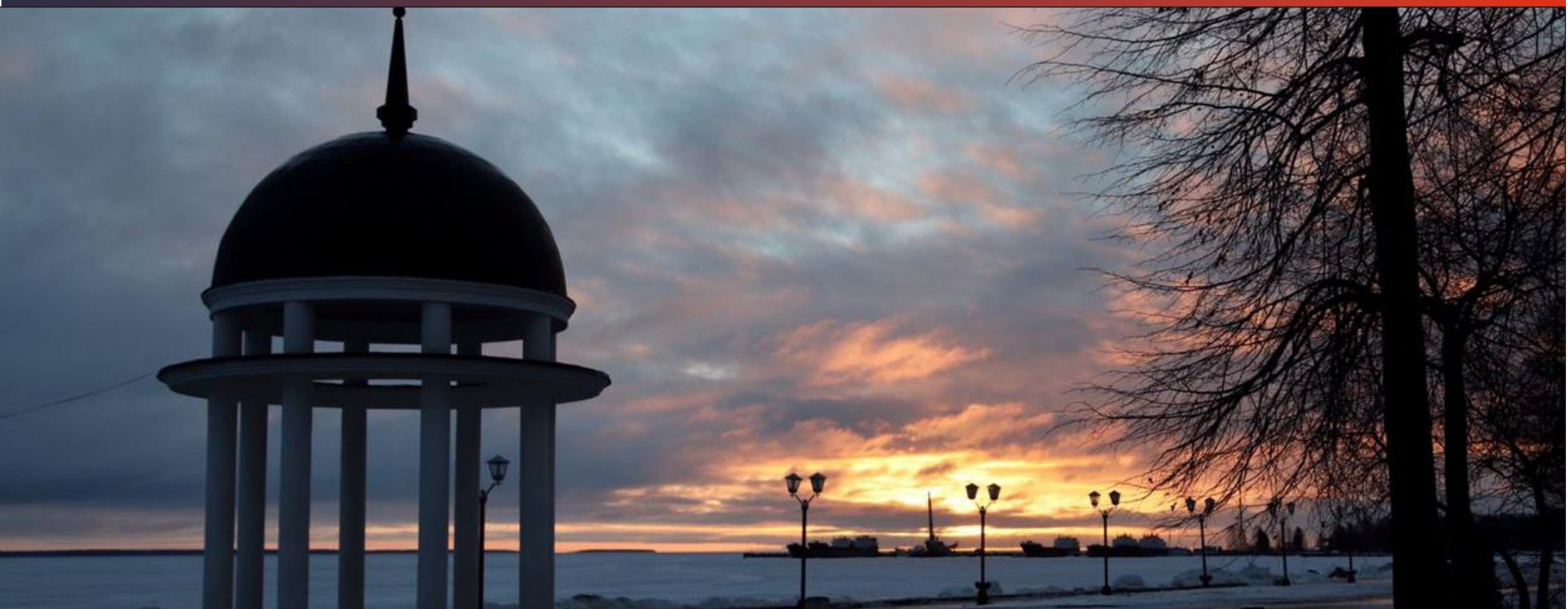


# Petrozavodsk

**DAY 5** *Mandroggi to Petrozavodsk*



**223Kms**



*Post breakfast we start our drive further to Petrozavodsk. Petrozavodsk is a city on the western shore of Lake Onega, in northwest Russia. It's known for the Museum of Fine Arts, which exhibits medieval icons alongside folk art and Russian paintings. The city is situated right on the western shore of Lake Onega (the second largest lake in Europe) and is the capital of Karelia.*

*Petrozavodsk travel is well-worth considering as the natural beauty of Karelia paired with the authenticity of Russian traditions intertwining with the European atmosphere is something to see for yourself.*







# Petrozavodsk - Kizhi Island



Activity Day - Visit to Kizhi Island



*In the morning we depart on the hovercraft to Kizhi Island on the Lake Onega. Upon arrival in Kizhi we visit the Open Air Museum of Wooden Architecture in Kizhi. This is one of the first open-air museums and one of the most popular tourist attractions in Russia. The main attraction of the museum is the Kizhi Pogost, declared a world heritage site by UNESCO in 1990. On the way back we make a stop near the highest point of Kizhi to enjoy the splendid panoramic view with hot barbeque lunch.*

*Kizhi Island in winter time is the place of rare beauty! Dark silhouettes of the famous wooden churches of Kizhi on a crispy blanket of white snow look absolutely stunning. It will take two hour to cross the second largest lake in Europe, Lake Onego, and reach Kizhi by hovercraft from Petrozavodsk.*



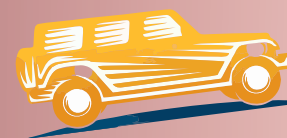




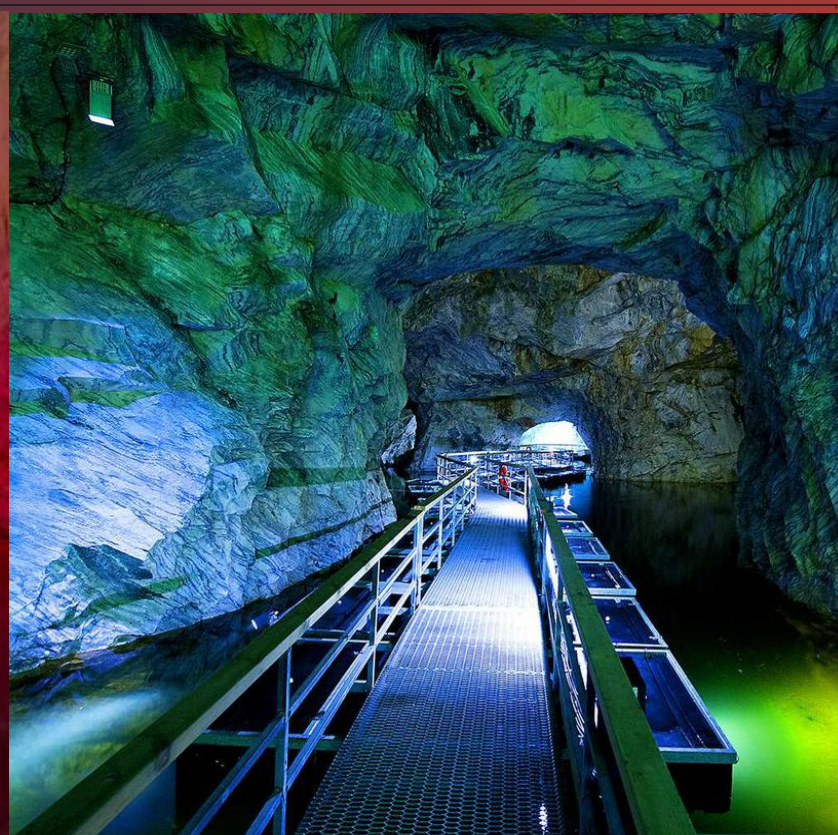
# Ruskeala

DAY 7

Petrozavodsk to Ruskeala



258Kms



*We drive from Petrozavodsk to Ruskeala. Ruskeala Mountain Park is the Hidden gem of Karelia. Ruskeala is one of the most outstanding and wonderful places of Northern Ladoga Lakeside as well as the only complex natural landmark in the mining history. After check in we enjoy a trip to a Banya to rejuvenate ourselves.*

*Banya is originally a Russian-Eastern Slavic steam bath with a wood stove. It is considered an important part of Russian culture with slavic root. The bath takes place in a small room or building designed for dry or wet heat sessions.*

*Kiran Goradia is an incredible host, who insists on delivering the highest standards of service. He personally curates every aspect of our experience so all we have to do is enjoy ourselves. The 9 days I spent driving from Moscow to St Petersburg with halts on the way was simply magical. We stayed in the best of hotels, had full schedules which also gave us some free time and had great tour guides. Most important, the small group of people all became comfortable with each other quickly and we had evenings filled with laughter and conversations. -Revathi Shivkuma*







# Ruskeala- Karjala Park



Activity Day - Husky Dogs, ATV & visit to Marble Canyon



*Today we continue our winter adventure with a visit to a husky farm. We learn how to prepare the sled dogs and how to operate a sleigh pulled by them. We enjoy a ride along the picturesque Shuya River shore in the scenic pine forest and return to the husky farm. We enjoy the breathtaking landscapes of the Karelia forest covered with a white blanket of snow. Also together we enjoy the ride on the ATV . After the lunch we proceed to Marble canyon. Near the village of Ruskeala. There are picturesque marble quarries, which served as a place for the extraction of marble for the cathedrals and palaces of St. Petersburg and other cities. There are ponds surrounded by sheer marble cliffs. The water in these reservoirs has an emerald color. In winter, when it is dark, artistic illumination is turned on. Near the Mountain Park there are the picturesque Ruskeala Waterfalls.*







# Zelenogorsk



Ruskeala to Zelenogorsk



284Kms



*We continue our drive from Ruskeala to Zelenogorsk. On the north of St. Petersburg it stretches westward along the shore for nearly 50 miles (80 km) to include Zelenogorsk. This northern extension is an area of dormitory towns, resorts, sanatoriums set among extensive coniferous forests and fringed by fine beaches and sand dunes.*

*As all good things come an end so will our drive. As we check in at our majestic hotel we return the cars to end our memorable drive.*







# St. Petersburg



Activity Day - Sherp Car, Snow Mobile & SS tour of St. Petersburg



*The sheer grandeur and history of Russia's imperial capital never fail to amaze, but this is also a city with a revolutionary spirit. St Petersburg grew to be the Romanovs' showcase capital and Russia's first great, modern city. The capital may have moved back to Moscow following the revolution, but despite all that history has thrown at it, St. Petersburg still feels every bit the imperial city with its historic heart largely frozen in time.*

*Check out of the hotel at 9.00am. We head towards by coach for a Sherp drive. - a Russian monster car – SHERP. A Russian all-terrain vehicle designed to be used on all types of soil, in marshy areas, on ice, in water and in the most difficult climatic conditions, including the Arctic. Test the unique vehicles unmatched in the world today. Some are experiencing sherp drive while others will be racing snow mobile. A adventure all day long!! Post lunch we end our trip with sight seeing tour of St. Petersburg,*







# Enjoy...RUSSIA



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*Everyday is an adventure...*





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*Down the memory Lane...*

*Our Earlier Russian Winter Drive*



**KIRAN GORADIA**  
ADVENTURES

1201-D, Ashok Gardens, T. J. Road, Sewree, Mumbai 400015 India.

KIRAN : +91 9820026633, UDAY : +91 9930401078, FALGUNI : +91 9819027658

Email: [kirangoradiaadventures@gmail.com](mailto:kirangoradiaadventures@gmail.com), [www.kirangoradiaadventures.com](http://www.kirangoradiaadventures.com)