

Join Us for the Journey of a Life Time

I invite you to join member ambassadors of the Friendship Force Florida Suncoast club when we journey to Russia to enjoy its treasures and live its culture while being hosted in homes of Friendship Force members of the Friendship Force clubs of Korolev (greater Moscow area) and Velikiy Novgorod (birthplace of Orthodox Russia & Russian Statehood). There is an optional 5-night extension and tour to St. Petersburg following our journey. You can arrange your own flights or travel with members of our group. Prior to our journey, numerous opportunities will be arranged to learn about Russian history, traditions, cuisine and the many sites we will visit. A Russian visa is required. Feel free to contact me with any questions. Darlene Kalada, Journey Coordinator

At A Glance

Sep. 9-15, 2018 Korolev
Sep. 15-21, 2018 Velikiy Novgorod
Sep. 21-26, 2018 St. Petersburg
Optional Tour

Cost for 2 homestay weeks including Visa:

\$1750 without optional tour
\$1180 with optional tour (Tour company includes cost of Visa and many of the transfers)

Optional Tour: \$1395

Air Fare est: \$1000 from Tampa FL:

Travel Insurance: Required.

Deposits, Final Payment

Final Payment due June 7, 2018
(needed for getting Visas on time)
Full refund if cancelled before July 7, 2018. No refund after July 1, 2018.

To Apply: Submit application by Jan. 20, 2018 with \$350 deposit check payable to *Friendship Force Florida Suncoast* to:

Darlene Kalada
2952 Hickory Drive
Largo 33770
dkalada@knology.net
727-531-4034

Applicants will be notified by Feb. 15, 2018. If accepted, an additional \$300 deposit is due within 3 weeks of acceptance.

Korolev, Russia ... History, Heritage, Space

Ideally located 20 minutes from Moscow, our hosts will arrange for us to spend 2+ days touring the wonders of Moscow and the Kremlin and 2 days visiting the historical cities of the Golden Ring. Promises of monasteries, folk ceremonies and traditions of ancient Russia await us! Because Korolev is home to Russia's space program, we get an exclusive visit to Mission Control and Star City. We'll explore Korolev itself, see national art treasures at Tretyakov Gallery, monasteries, a dancing masterclass, parties and much more. All expenses paid except 3 lunches in Moscow on your own.

Velikiy Novgorod ... A UNESCO World Heritage Site

Velikiy Novgorod is a picturesque city on the Volkhov River, a few hours south of St. Petersburg. The oldest city in Russia, it is the cradle of Russian democracy and the medieval center of trade and crafts. Our hosts will arrange for us to visit the walled Kremlin, glorious multi-domed Sophia Cathedral, Vitoslavitsy Museum of Folk Wooden Architecture, home of Rachimaninoff so expect music, State Art Museum of Novgorod Land, North State Integrated Museum Reserve and other heritage and historical sights and experiences.

5-Night Extension to St. Petersburg, Russia (optional)

City Tour, Hermitage Museum tour with advance entrance plus day to tour on your own, Trip to Peterhof summer residence to Russian czars, Trip to Pushkin to see Catherine's palace and world renowned Amber Room, River & Canal Boat Rides in the Venice of the North. See Darlene for tour details and packet.

Suggested Websites and Readings:

TripAdvisor for Information on Sights to See in the Korolev and Velikiy Novgorod.

1000 Places to See Before You Die, by Patricia Schultz (5-6 of our sights to visit are in this book)

<https://www.travelallrussia.com> Excellent information on a lot of things about traveling to Russia.

