



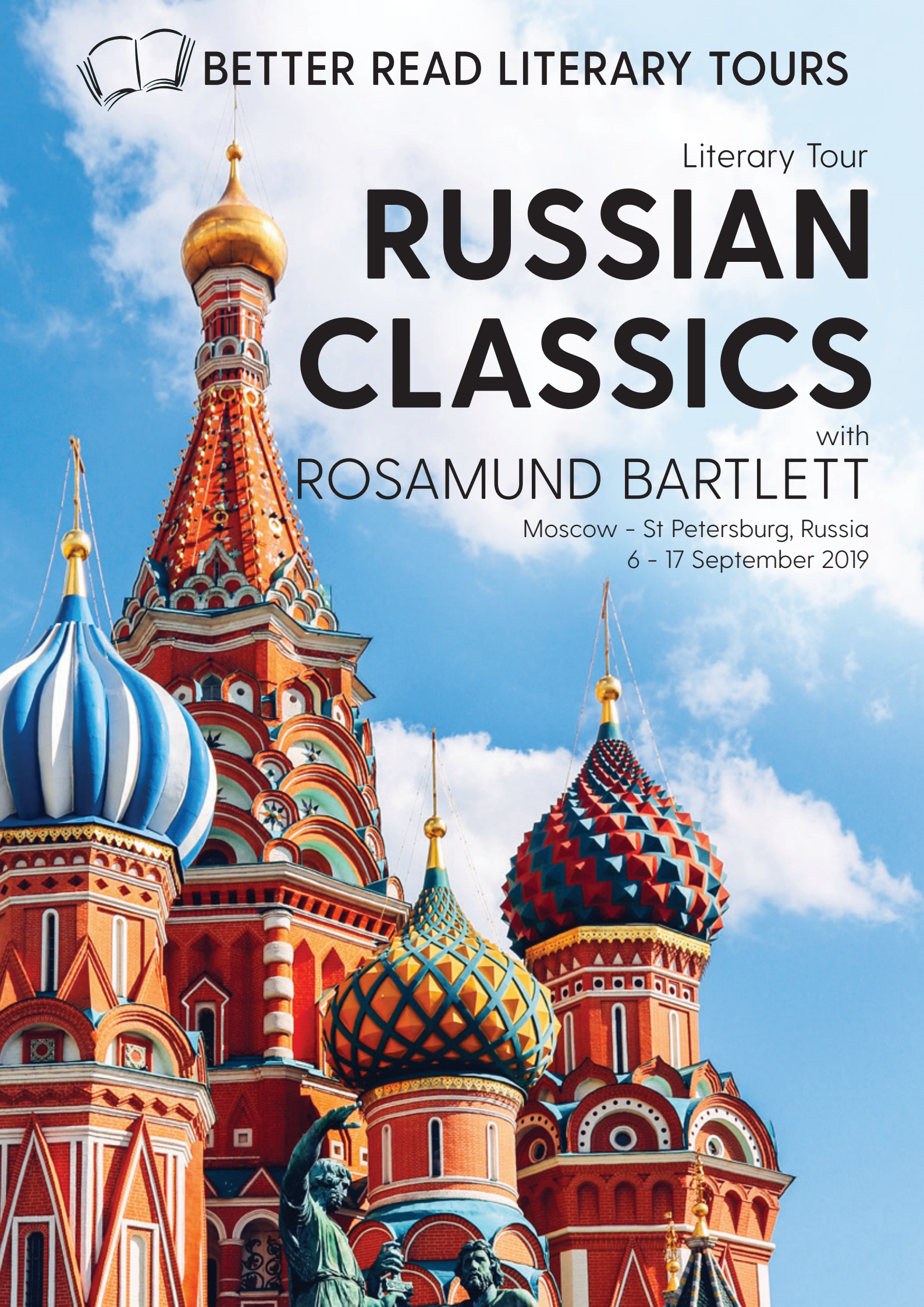
BETTER READ LITERARY TOURS

Literary Tour

RUSSIAN CLASSICS

with
ROSAMUND BARTLETT

Moscow - St Petersburg, Russia
6 - 17 September 2019





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ABOUT THE TOUR

This trip offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to follow in the footsteps of the great Russian writers with a tour leader, Rosamund Bartlett, who is perfectly suited to guide you. Rosamund is a talented writer, biographer of Tolstoy and Chekhov, and acclaimed translator of both. Her unquenchable thirst for Russian literature and history, and their connections with music and art, has made her deeply knowledgeable and passionate about the country and its cultural milieu as well as a frequent visitor to Russia.

Our literary exploration begins in Moscow, where we will visit the homes and haunts of such varied writers as Gorky, Tolstoy and Bulgakov, and explore painterly connections at the Tretyakov Gallery. Across the river, we will step inside the frescoed cathedrals of the medieval Kremlin.

Rosamund will guide us beyond the domes and galleries of Moscow, deep into the

literary heartland of the Russian countryside. For many Russian writers, nature itself was a guide to living with grace and purpose. During this trip, we will spend two nights at Yasnaya Polyana, where Tolstoy lived and wrote and where he built a community around simplicity, nature and moral truth.

After our sojourn at Yasnaya Polyana, we will travel by bus to Chekhov's country estate in sleepy Melikhovo, then fly to beautiful St Petersburg. In September, bathed in the golden light of autumn, and mostly without tourists, the city has so much to offer including the homes of Dostoevsky and the extraordinary poet Anna Akhmatova, and the Hermitage and Russian Museum.

This is a wonderful chance to see Russia as rarely seen by Western travellers. Explore the creativity of Moscow and St Petersburg through the lens of the lives and works of some of Russia's greatest men and women of letters.





TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Visit Red Square and St Basil's Cathedral. Explore the nearby gardens and Manège, where Tolstoy learned to ride his bicycle at the age of 67. Red Square is just a stone's throw from your hotel.

Take a stroll around Patriarch's Ponds, the setting for scenes from *Master and Margarita*. Sip tea by the Moscow Art Theatre and discuss Chekhov's *The Black Monk* with Rosamund over a blini or three!

Tour the amazing stations of Moscow's Metro, where chandeliers and sculptures, jasper, marble and glass combine in many different styles, deep underground.

Immerse yourself in Tolstoy's world when you stay for two nights in the landscape of Tolstoy's family home. Amble beneath

silver poplars and dine with fellow literature lovers for the opening address of the international translators' symposium at the estate, now in its fourteenth year.

Experience five nights in stunning St Petersburg, the city of poets. See the rearing statue of *The Bronze Horseman*, visit Pushkin's wonderful apartment on the Moika River, and Anna Akhmatova's on the embankment of the Fontanka.

Lose yourself in the unparalleled collection of art at the Hermitage, hung in rooms of malachite and gold.

Follow in Raskolnikov's footsteps as he plays cat-and-mouse with detective Porfiry Petrovich in an edgy *Crime and Punishment* walk led by Rosamund.

MEET THE TEAM

Rosamund Bartlett, Tour Leader

Rosamund Bartlett was born in London, holds a doctorate from Oxford, and has been travelling to Russia since 1978. She began learning Russian as a schoolgirl, and is the author of *Chekhov: Scenes from a Life*, *Tolstoy: A Russian Life* and *Literary Russia: A Guide*. Her work as a translator includes Anton Chekhov, *About Love and Other Stories*, the first uncensored edition of his letters for Penguin Classics, and *Anna Karenina*, published by Oxford World's Classics in 2014. Her most recent book is *The Russian Soul: Selections from a Writer's Diary* by Fyodor Dostoevsky. She has lectured on Russian literature at universities and public institutions around the world, and been commissioned to write for publications such as the *Financial Times*, *The Guardian*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. In 2007 she began a campaign to restore Chekhov's house in Yalta, and remains a Trustee of the Anton Chekhov Foundation, a UK charity set up to honour the writer's literary and humanitarian legacy. She is a regular visitor to Australia and is currently an Honorary Research Associate at the School of Modern Languages and Cultures at the University of Sydney.

www.rosamundbartlett.com

Lana Nadj, Tour Coordinator

Lana is a Russian speaker of Belarusian ancestry whose favourite pastime (apart from travelling) is to read Russian novels. Her first full-time job, in 1995, was to organise events for the British Ambassador to Russia in the Kharitonenko Mansion on Moscow's Sofia Embankment. Lana has an Honours Degree in Russian and Political Science (ANU) and she has travelled to various parts of the Russian Federation and to many countries of the former Soviet Union.



ITINERARY

D Friday September 6th

Arrival Moscow

We arrive in bustling Moscow, where medieval echoes sound along modern streets and beautiful domed churches surprise us at every turn.

On arrival, our driver and guide take us from the airport to the **stunning Hotel National**, situated right by the Kremlin in the heart of the city.

We can venture outside when we are ready to stretch our legs in the popular Alexander Garden and Manège (where Tolstoy learned to ride a bicycle aged 67), or orient ourselves with a stroll to Red Square, just steps from the hotel. As the sun sets, we will meet in our hotel for informal drinks and dinner.

Hotel: Hotel National, Luxury Marriott

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Meal Key

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Breakfast

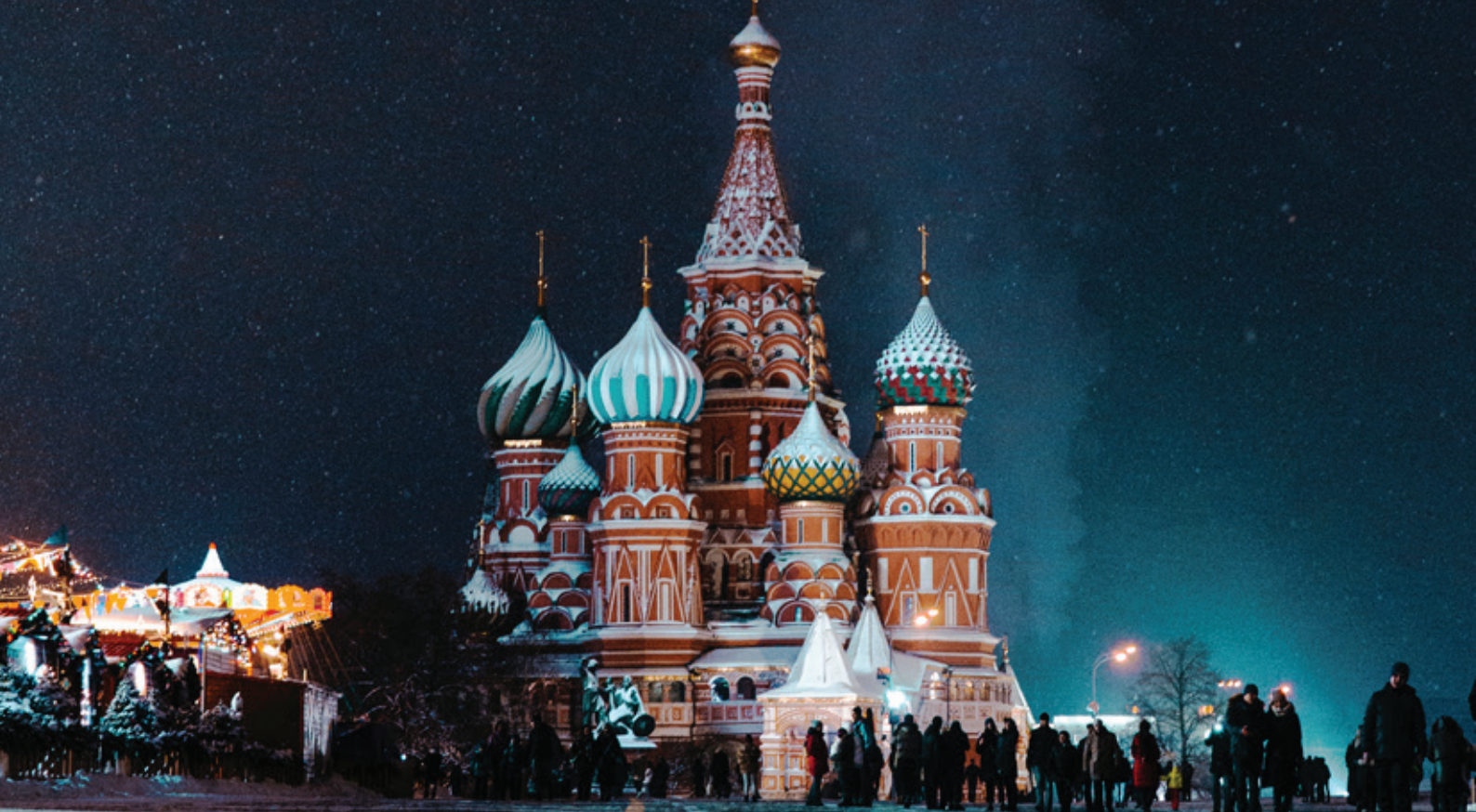
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Lunch

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Dinner





B L Saturday September 7th

Old Moscow, City

After breakfast, Rosamund will set the scene for the day, sketching out writer and playwright **Anton Chekhov's** connection with the city; introducing avant-garde poet, **Vladimir Mayakovsky**, whose work (and suicide) shocked the nation, and writer **Maxim Gorky** who portrayed village life in unsparing detail – a friend to Chekhov and a towering figure in literature and public life.

Chekhov's house will be closed during our visit due to renovations, but the exhibition will be moved to the private house of painter Ilya Ostroukhov.

Ostroukhov's house, nestled in the heart of old Moscow, is well worth visiting. The owner was a leading collector in the Moscow art world of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. His collection was referred to in a 1914 city-guide as one of Moscow's foremost attractions and was frequented by art lovers, which gave considerable trouble – as well as pleasure – to its owner. Rosamund will share many fascinating stories about him with you.

We stop for lunch just a few streets away, in the former administrative offices of the **Central House of Writers**. The celebrated fine dining establishment is in a neo-Gothic, nineteenth-century mansion which Stalin gave to literature

2
DAY

at Maxim Gorky's request. This fabulous restaurant's ornate interior was redesigned with a light modern touch by Moscow architect Anna Rodionova in 2014.

We stay in the area to visit the former home of **Vladimir Mayakovsky**, now an apartment-museum on Krasnaya Presnaya Street.

We then take a short drive to the brilliant Ryabushinsky Mansion, now better known to Muscovites as the house of **Maxim Gorky**. With an amazing wavy marble staircase and exquisite stained glass windows, this is an Art Nouveau gem designed by architect Fyodor Shekhtel, friend to Chekhov and architect of many treasured early twentieth-century buildings still extant in Moscow.

After we return to the hotel, the evening is free. Our hotel is surrounded by restaurants, bars and cafés, and we are also just a short walk from the Bolshoi Theatre precinct and the restaurants off Red Square.

With the cultural season in full swing, there is likely to be an **opera, concert or ballet** to take in, with arrangements to be advised as soon as programs begin to be advertised.

Hotel: Hotel National



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Sunday September 8th

Moscow, Novodevichy & Kremlin

Our relaxed Sunday includes a trip to the beautiful **Novodevichy Cemetery** and the glorious cathedrals of the **Kremlin**.

Our day begins in a quiet part of town with a visit to **Tolstoy's Moscow home**. The wooden house on Lev Tolstoy Street is set on almost two acres. We will have time to walk through the lovely garden graced by linden and maple trees that date from Tolstoy's days living here.

After exploring the grounds and interior, we stay in the neighbourhood to visit the **Novodevichy Cemetery and Convent** a short drive away.

A place of honour, second only to the Kremlin walls, everyone who is anyone is buried at Novodevichy – the country's most famous ballerinas, actors, composers, doctors and politicians and writers, perhaps most beloved of all Russians. Will be out and about today, bringing fresh flowers and pausing to admire the many varied headstones in sculptural and bas-relief.

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After ambling along the hallowed rows – there is Nikolai Gogol, Anton Chekhov and Olga Knipper, Vladimir Mayakovsky, Mikhail Bulgakov – we stop for lunch at Moscow's much-loved **Georgian restaurant, U Pirosmeni**, which overlooks the convent gardens of Novodevichy.

After lunch, we return to our hotel and walk across to the **Kremlin**, replete with architectural beauty, precious jewels and reliquary. In the **Armoury Chamber** we will see the unparalleled craftsmanship of Fabergé and the many other artisans and couturiers who served the tsars and gentry. Afterwards we will be able to go inside a number of the splendid cathedrals of the citadel where tsars have been crowned and remain entombed today in medieval splendour.

The evening is free for you to take in an early concert (with details to be supplied). Alternatively, have a drink at the Metropole, or walk across Red Square to see St Basil's cathedral at dusk.

Hotel: Hotel National



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Monday September 9th

Moscow – Free day

After breakfast we will join Rosamund for a stimulating **talk on cultural Moscow**, in advance of our trip to the Tretyakov Gallery tomorrow and to Tolstoy's birthplace and country home, Yasnaya Polyana. Bring all your questions with you!

Customise your itinerary today and make it as jam-packed or restful as you need.

You might scour the famous **Arbat Street** for souvenirs or take yourself to historic Kitai Gorod, east of the hotel.

You might join Rosamund to explore Bulgakov territory at **Patriarch's Ponds**, or rest up and meet for a **book club-style discussion of *The Black Monk* by Anton Chekhov** over afternoon tea near the hotel.

We will meet to compare notes over dinner at the legendary **Café Pushkin**, where we will enjoy refined Russian fare in a perfect spot for bibliophiles, the well-appointed Library Hall.

After dinner, we venture deep underground to visit the splendid stops of the **Moscow Metro**. A gargantuan project that began in the 1930s, the Metro stations are true palaces of the people, each with its own distinctive architectural style and palette.

Hotel: Hotel National

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“

The extraordinary character of the giant is captured better by Bartlett than by any previous biographer.

- Spectator

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Tuesday September 10th

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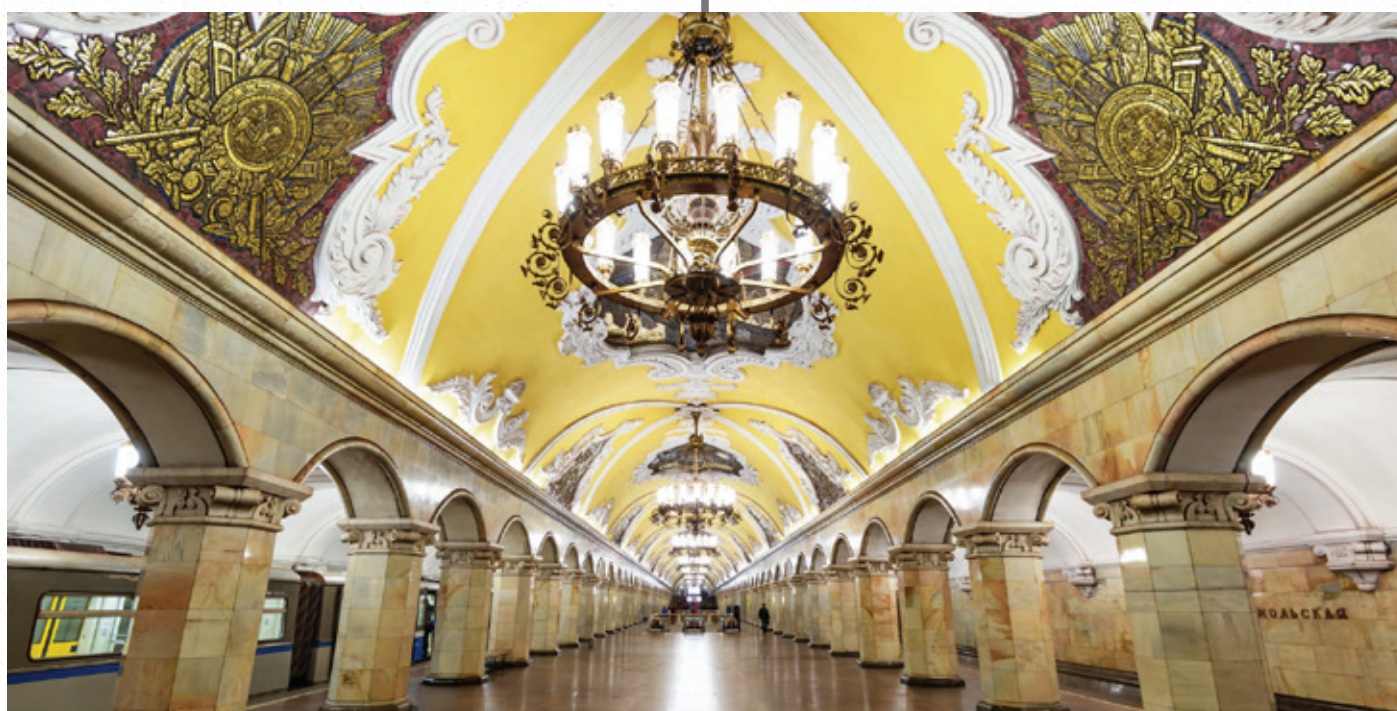
Moscow, Tretyakov Gallery & travel to Yasnaya Polyana

We check out of our beautiful hotel in preparation for our country sojourn and visit to Yasnaya Polyana. Our final day in Moscow begins at the world-class **Tretyakov Gallery**. Its extraordinary holdings include a remarkable collection of portraits of writers, composers, musicians and actors. These include Vasily Perov's hauntingly brilliant Dostoevsky, Nikolai Ge's depiction of Tolstoy bent over his writing and Ilya Repin's complex portrait of Turgenev.

We pause for lunch next door to the gallery at the lovely Russian restaurant, **Brothers Tretyakov**, before our journey into the countryside, where many Russians say the real Russia begins. During the 200km drive south of Moscow we pass villages and birch-fringed fields, and the city of Tula, to arrive at our hotel in the early evening. The Grumant Park Hotel is set in leafy parklands just 1.5km from Tolstoy's estate of Yasnaya Polyana.

We will have a chance to rest or take a walk before dinner in the restaurant in the hotel, where we will stay for two nights.

Hotel: Grumant Park Hotel



BETTER READ LITERARY TOURS

Wednesday September 11th

B L D

Yasnaya Polyana

We wake up to country air in the birch-forested landscape that nourished and inspired Tolstoy throughout his life.

The whole day is ours to spend at **Yasnaya Polyana** ('Clear Glade', or 'Bright Meadow'). We take in the estate grounds at our leisure: choose a path through the forest or sit by the pond; wander along the avenues of birches or stroll around the outbuildings still actively in use.

Together, we will visit the interior of the main house itself, where Tolstoy wrote *Anna Karenina* and *War and Peace* and received Turgenev, Gorky and Chekhov, among many other visitors to the estate. The house remains largely as it was at the time of Tolstoy's death. In the study, we will see the leather sofa on which Tolstoy himself was born, and where Sophia Andreyevna gave birth to thirteen children. The remaining volumes of Tolstoy's impressive library still on the shelves include books in many foreign languages (including Japanese, which he was teaching himself at the time of his death).

At the cosy Russian café outside the gates of the estate we will stop for a simple lunch.

After lunch, we can stroll down the main street of the tiny village also named Yasnaya Polyana and walk to the place where Tolstoy lies buried on his property in a tranquil clearing in dappled light – a place of simple beauty and spiritual significance for many.

Today marks the first day of Yasnaya Polyana's annual **International Seminar of Translators of Works of Leo Tolstoy and Other Russian Classical Authors**, to which Rosamund has been invited to give the **opening address**. We will also participate, by mingling with scholars, translators and other lovers of literature over dinner hearing Rosamund's address, delivered in English.

Hotel: Grumant Park Hotel

“Rosamund Bartlett's major new translation conveys Tolstoy's precision of meaning and emotional accuracy in an English version that is highly readable and stylistically faithful. Like her acclaimed biography of Tolstoy, it is vivid, nuanced, and compelling.”

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Thursday September 12th B L D

Melikhovo & arrival in St Petersburg

After breakfast, our driver takes us north to the village of **Melikhovo**, some 90 minutes by road from Yasnaya Polyana. It was at this pastoral retreat that Chekhov spent seven years as a successful writer, only leaving finally for the Crimea when his health deteriorated. Within the peaceful walls of this charming wooden house Chekhov wrote *The Seagull*, *Uncle Vanya* and *The Black Monk*.

With its rambling gardens, this sprawling museum complex invites exploration. We visit **Chekhov's house** where paintings by his friend Levitan still hang on the walls, his medical surgery where his instruments have been retained, and take a turn around the grounds, planted with herbs, flowers and vegetables in honour of Chekhov's love of gardens and gardening.

We stop for a simple Russian lunch in the museum café and in due course set off for Domodedovo airport located south of Moscow, for our flight to St Petersburg.

Our wonderful hotel, the **Angleterre**, is superbly situated by the stunning dome of St Isaac's Cathedral, ringed by twelve bronze angels. Our driver will take us from the airport to the hotel, where a light supper awaits.

Hotel: Angleterre, St Petersburg





B Friday September 13th

St Petersburg – Dostoevsky, the Hermitage

After breakfast, our driver takes us to the inner-city **Kuznechny Market** to start the day at St Petersburg's most famous covered market. Enjoy the colorful array of fresh produce, meat and cheese, Central Asian delicacies, nuts and coffee, honey, preserves and pastries.

A short walk away, we visit the nearby **Dostoevsky Museum** in the writer's last apartment, where he wrote *The Brothers Karamazov* (and where he died). Then choose from a cluster of cheerful local cafés for a quick lunch. Our driver then takes us across town for an afternoon of world art at the legendary **State Hermitage Museum**.

Our guide takes us down the halls of the **Winter Palace** where we explore the main collection of the Hermitage, including the masterpieces of Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Rembrandt, El Greco, Goya and Gainsborough, as well as the Impressionists and Post-Impressionists in the

8
DAY

General Staff Building wing. We visit the famous **Diamond Room** containing the unique collection of priceless gems that belonged to the Romanov family. Each room and hallway is a work of art in itself.

After a rest and dinner, we meet for evening drinks at the **Stray Dog**. An artistic establishment with its heyday in the Silver Age, Anna Akhmatova, Osip Mandelstam and Vladimir Mayakovsky were among those who read poetry to packed crowds, and enjoyed intimate theatrical performances in this basement café-bar.

Hotel: Angleterre, St Petersburg

“ ... The most abstract and intentional city in the world...”

Notes from Underground
- Dostoevsky on St Petersburg ”



BETTER READ LITERARY TOURS



B Saturday September 14th

St Petersburg, City

After breakfast, our driver drops us at the historic **Arts Square** for a morning of Russian art at the fabulous **Russian Museum**. Salute the statue of Pushkin in the square and explore the enormous and varied collection of superb paintings inside. We will pore over precious icons, as well as works by Levitsky, Bryullov, Repin, Vereshchagin, Goncharova and Malevich, and art from major art centres outside of the capital such as Novgorod and Kazan.

Our driver will collect us for the short trip to **Anna Akhmatova's** former apartment.

On the way to the apartment-museum, we will look out for the Muruzi House, an especially ornate building with myriad literary connections including the site of Joseph Brodsky's former communal apartment. We also pass the Ustinov Mansion, where the brilliant novelist Ivan Goncharov lived and died.

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We visit the richly detailed Anna Akhmatova Museum at the Fountain House, in the southern wing of the eighteenth century **Sheremetev palace** on the Fontanka River. Akhmatova had an apartment here for 30 years from the mid 1920s.

After returning to the hotel, venture further afield on your own but join Rosamund after lunch for a **Crime and Punishment** themed tour on foot. Afterwards, take a stroll along **Nevsky Prospect** or the Admiralty District, then return to the hotel for a **talk by Rosamund** before dinner ahead of an early start for our homage to Akhmatova and excursion across the Gulf of Finland to Peterhof tomorrow.

Hotel: Angleterre, St Petersburg

“As we crossed the vast squares, various architectural phantoms arose with silent suddenness right before us. We felt a cold thrill, generally associated not with height but with depth – with an abyss opening at one's feet – when great, monolithic pillars of polished granite (polished by slaves, repolished by the moon, and rotating smoothly in the polished vacuum of the night) zoomed above us to support the mysterious rotundities of St. Isaac's cathedral...”

– Nabokov, *Speak, Memory*





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Sunday September 15th

Komarovo, Kronstadt & Peterhof

We rise early for a day out of town, starting with a visit to **Anna Akhmatova's grave** and the dacha settlement of **Komarovo**, where the poet found a kind of peace in her tiny summer house. While we will not be able to visit the house itself, the settlement of Komarovo which lies 45kms from the city centre, in forested land on the Finnish Gulf, is tranquil and beautiful.

After stopping in Komarovo we **cross the Finnish Gulf** by road, stopping briefly on the **island of Kronstadt**, long a key Russian naval base and more recently a blood-soaked turning point in Bolshevik history. After stretching our legs by the marvellous St Nicholas Naval Cathedral which honours the Kronstadt sailors, we continue on to the **UNESCO World Heritage site of Peterhof**, across the Gulf.

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On arrival you are sure to be dazzled by the fountains and baroque opulence of the Peterhof **palace complex**. We stop for lunch in the restaurant there, then spend the afternoon exploring the luxurious palace interior and grounds. We walk through the gardens, alongside the ornamental lakes and follies and admire Peter the Great's marvellously exuberant residence on the shore.

We return to the hotel and, with arrangements to be advised, hope to attend an opera or ballet performance at the Mariinsky Theatre this evening.

Hotel: Angleterre, St Petersburg



BETTER READ LITERARY TOURS

B D Monday September 16th

St Petersburg, City

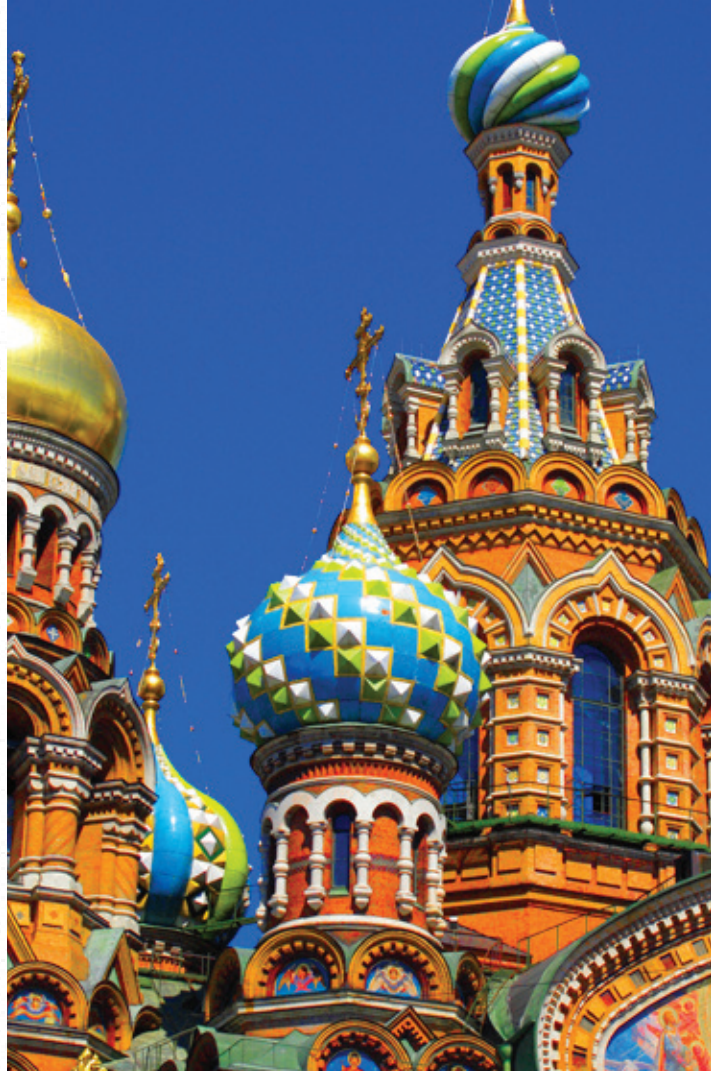
After breakfast, our driver takes us to see the interior of the extraordinary **Church of Christ the Saviour on Spilt Blood** in central St Petersburg. The church was founded in 1883 and built to honour the life of Alexander II, who was fatally wounded by a revolutionary on this site. The exquisite lapidary work that covers each centimeter of the church walls and pillars took thirty years to restore after early Soviet neglect, and the effect is, breathtaking.

Our driver then drops us at the **Alexander Pushkin Museum and Memorial Apartment**, in an eighteenth-century stone mansion on the Moika River, which was Pushkin's last residence, and where he died on 29 January 1837 after being wounded in a duel. The site became a museum in 1925 but was already known as Pushkin's home to residents of the city. A clock in the study is set to the precise time of his death.

Having filled your cup with Pushkin, travel back to the hotel with our driver and spend the afternoon near **St Isaac's**, or **walk out along the Moika to Nevsky Prospect** for sightseeing in the area. It is our last afternoon in St Petersburg; we make the most of our time to soak up the atmosphere, visit bookshops, drink tea and eat pastries or walk in the city parks, lovely in the golden autumn light.

We meet at the hotel for a lift to dinner at the fashionable bar-restaurant, **Vinny Shkaf** (The Wine Cellar), on buzzy Rubinstein Street.

Hotel: Angleterre, St Petersburg



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Tuesday September 17th

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City sights & departure

After breakfast and check-out, we enjoy a final morning of sights before bidding the city farewell.

We pay a visit to the small **Nabokov Museum** – housed in the grand former childhood home of the writer before he went into exile – then drive to the **Tikhvinskoe Cemetery at the Alexander Nevsky Monastery**. At this Necropolis of the Artists we visit the graves of writers Nikolai Karamzin, Ivan Krylov and Fyodor Dostoevsky.

If time permits, we will visit the **Peter-Paul Fortress**, by now a familiar sight across the river, where writers imprisoned within its walls have included Maxim Gorky, Dostoevsky and Nikolai Chernyshevsky (where he wrote the revolutionary novel, *What is to be Done?*).

And at last – it is time to leave.

Ensure you have a good novel for the flight.

Take one last look at the angels of St Isaac's Cathedral, as the driver departs for the airport, and takes you on to your next destination.



PACKAGE DETAILS

INCLUDED

What is included in the cost?

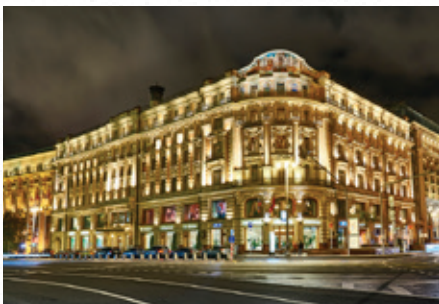
- Tour Leader expert in Russian literature
- Tour Coordinator Australian, fluent Russian speaker
- English speaking local guide
- Central accommodations with daily breakfast
- Transports (inland)
- Meals (as listed in itinerary)
- Visits and transfers as mentioned
- Domestic flight as per itinerary (Economy Class)

EXCLUDED

What is not included in the cost?

- Transport to Russia
- Costs of Visa
- Travel insurance (compulsory)
- Incidentals and expenditure of a personal nature
- Services, meals and drinks if not mentioned in itinerary

HOTELS



Hotel National, Moscow.
Situated across the road from the
Kremlin.



Grumant Park Hotel,
Yasnaya Polyana.



Angleterre, St Petersburg.
5 minute's walk from Palace Square,
the Hermitage and Nevsky Prospekt.

PRICING

The price is land content only and does not include airfares.
To secure your booking a deposit of AUD \$2,000 is required.

	Single Occupancy	Twin Share
Tour price in AUD \$	\$11,150.00	\$8,650.00
Deposit to secure booking	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Installment due by 30th April 2019	\$3,050.00	\$2,217.00
Installment due by 18th June 2019	\$3,050.00	\$2,217.00
Final Payment due by 14th August 2019	\$3,050.00	\$2,216.00

Full payment needs to be completed no later than
14th August 2019





BETTER READ LITERARY TOURS

Better Read Than Dead, nestled in the heart of Newtown's lively King Street, is one of Sydney's most iconic and beloved independent bookshops — and Lonely Planet's favourite Sydney bookshop. Better Read Than Dead has been an active member of Sydney's literary community for over two decades, renowned for its enthusiastic support of authors and its keen engagement with wide-ranging literary events.

Better Read Than Dead launched Better Read Literary Tours in 2017. The acquisition of Bookshop Travel has led Better Read Literary Tours to combine Better Read Than Dead's wealth of bookish knowledge with the expertise of this trusted educational tour company to provide our travellers with a programme of thoughtfully curated, fully escorted tours to the world's most fascinating literary destinations.

Our erudite local guides have been carefully chosen and provide inimitable insight into their region. There is no one better suited to walk alongside you as you explore these foreign shores and learn of the historical, cultural and political events that have shaped the world's greatest and most influential writers.

Better Read Literary Tours also offers a range of international writing workshops which merge our unique, local-infused itineraries with the opportunity to work closely with an experienced Australian mentor. These workshops offer the perfect retreat from the day-to-day, whether you're seeking to centre your creativity, find inspiration in a stunning new landscape, hone your writing practice or turn your focus on to a particular project.

We are running five international tours in 2019 and are working hard to create new and compelling travel opportunities for the following year. Be the first to learn of new tours by following us on social media and subscribing to our newsletter.

BOOKING

ENROL

If you would like to secure your place, please complete a booking enquiry form
- available on our website by clicking "Book Now" -

OR

COMPLETE attached form on page 20

EMAIL completed form, or any issues, to tours@betterread.com.au

POST to Better Read Bookshop, 265 King Street, Newtown NSW 2042.

For more information:

Jenny: 0475 761 717

www.betterreadtours.com

What happens when I send in a booking enquiry form?

A representative of Better Read Literary Tours will contact you via phone and email to discuss booking options. A place is offered and a tax invoice will be issued.

We will receipt your payment and issue a tax invoice showing your payment and any balance due.

Cancellation

If you need to cancel your booking all effort will be made to find a new participant to take your place. If a new participant can be found \$300 will be forfeited from your refund as an administration fee.

If your place cannot be filled your booking will remain and no refund will be given if less than 90 days until tour commencement. If you cancel more than 90 days prior to the start of the tour you will be eligible for a refund of 70% of the tour cost. All requests for cancellation of your booking and refund of funds must be made in writing.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance at the time of booking is recommended.

T's & C's

Please read the following terms and conditions carefully.

Bookings: Better Read Tours reserve the right to refuse any booking at our sole discretion. No reason will be given for such refusal.

Prices: All prices are subject to availability and can be withdrawn or amended at any time without notice.

Amendment/Cancellation Fees: Amended or cancelled bookings will incur charges. These charges can be up to 100% of the cost of the booking, regardless of whether travel has commenced. Better Read Tours reserves the right to charge cancellation fees over and above those charged by wholesalers, tour operators, airlines, cruise companies, etc. Fees will also apply where a booking is changed or tickets are reissued.

Deposit & Final Payment: To confirm your reservation you will be required to pay a deposit. The amount of the deposit is 30% of the total tour price. Your deposit forms part of your final payment which must be received by us before documents are issued. Final payment is required 90 days prior to the departure date. Subject to the Australian Consumer Law, the deposit is non refundable.

Travel Documents: Travel documents are subject to certain conditions and/or restrictions including restrictions on refunds, changes of dates and subject to cancellation and/or amendment fees. All travel documents are non transferable. All airline tickets must be issued in the identical name of the passport holder, as airlines are at liberty to deny carriage if the name varies and the booking may be cancelled. Any resulting fees will be at the traveller's own expense.

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is strongly recommended by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for all overseas travel and is compulsory to participate in a Better Read Tours tour. We will be pleased to provide information to you about comprehensive travel insurance.

Passports & Visas: It is your responsibility to ensure that you have valid passports, visas and re-entry permits which meet the requirements of immigration and other government authorities. Any fines, penalties, payments or expenditures incurred as a result of such documents not meeting the requirements of those authorities will be your sole responsibility. All travellers must have a valid passport for international travel and many countries require at least 6 months validity from the date of entry. If you need information regarding visa and other travel document requirements for your trip please let us know. We can obtain such information from an external visa advisory service provider on your behalf. We do not warrant the accuracy of such information.

Subject to the Australian Consumer Law, we accept no liability for any loss or damage, which you may suffer in reliance on it. We can obtain visas for you if you wish and fees may apply for this service.

Health: It is your responsibility to ensure that you are aware of any health requirements for your travel destinations and to ensure that you carry all necessary vaccination documentation. Better Read Tours expects that you have achieved a good level of fitness prior to departure that enables you to comfortably walk up stairs and to walk reasonable distances with vigour.

Taxes: Certain taxes are mandatory in various countries. There may also be an additional local tax charged at some airports. All taxes are subject to change without notice. It is recommended that you visit the website of the Department of Foreign Affairs for all up to date information. www.smarttraveller.org.au

Fee & Charges: Credit card charges may apply.

Agency: Better Read Tours Pty Ltd ABN 16 621 237 885 is a tour company and the travel supplier. We work to bring to you a unique travel experience. Better Read Tours will assist you in all possible areas should there be dissatisfaction with any service provided.

Liability: Subject to the Australian Consumer Law, we do not accept any liability of whatever nature for the acts, omissions or default, whether negligent or otherwise, of third party providers over whom we have no direct control. Under circumstances where liability cannot be excluded, such liability is limited to the value of the purchased travel arrangements to the extent permissible. We do not accept any liability in contract, tort or otherwise for any injury, damage, loss (including consequential loss), delay, additional expenses or inconvenience caused directly or indirectly by any event or matter which is beyond our control or which is not preventable by reasonable diligence on our part.

Privacy Policy: Better Read Tours are committed to protecting the privacy and confidentiality of personal information.



Booking Enquiry Form

Thanks for booking with us. Better Read Tours will record your booking request and contact you via email to confirm. A Tax Invoice will be sent via email with payment options and the amount due.

Your booking is not confirmed until we acknowledge that a deposit has been received. If you have additional accommodation requirements we are happy to advise you on who to enquire with but we do not make bookings outside of the dates for the selected travel experience. All bookings are subject to our terms and conditions.

When filling in this form, please ensure spelling is correct and your name is written as it is on your passport. Type directly on to the form or print out, scan and complete.

Please send the completed booking request via email to tours@betterread.com.au or post to Better Read Tours, C/- Better Read Bookshop, 265 King St Newtown NSW 2042. One form is to be completed per person.

We look forward to assisting you.

DATE OF ENQUIRY:		REQUESTED EXPERIENCE:	
TITLE:	FIRST NAME:	LAST NAME:	
ADDRESS:			
STATE:	POSTCODE:	COUNTRY:	
BEST CONTACT NUMBER:		SECONDARY NUMBER:	
EMAIL ADDRESS:			
DOB:	WOULD YOU LIKE TO KEEP UP-TO-DATE WITH OUR NEWSLETTERS? Y / N		
COMMENTS:			





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