

*Since 1995*

## "RUSSIAN WINTER" PROGRAMM

*Just feel it and enjoy!*

**S**t. Petersburg is nice and charming not only in summer, but also in winter. Winter landscapes in combination with magnificent architecture makes the city really great. The nature of the area in winter helps one feel and understand the severe beauty of the North capital of Russia.

*The Bank Bridge in Winter*

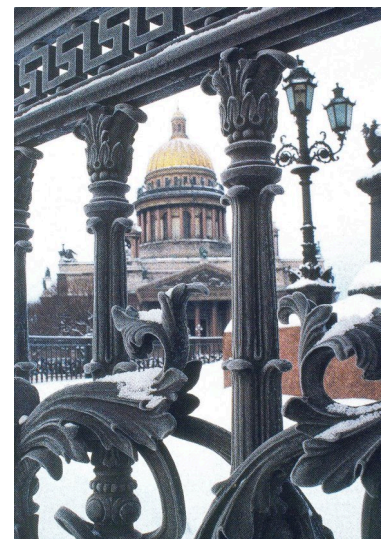
Certainly, St. Petersburg is not really warm in winter, from the point of view of the weather. Generally its cold, but this is also one of the advantages of the season in our city. Bright sparkling snow in the streets, parks and gardens; thick transparent ice on the Neva and on most of the channels - the realm of white colors.

Most people think that life in St. Petersburg stops in winter, but those willing to check it come across the great variety of events taking place in our city at this period of time: first nights at the theaters, sport competitions, music and film festivals,

### *Events*

**A** lot of different cultural and sports events are traditionally held in winter time in St.Petersburg. The "White Days" Programm is the complex of cultural events in St.Petersburg arranged by the administration of the city in cooperation with major tourist companies and big hotels. Since 2001 all the festivals and concerts are united into the "White Days" Programm, which covers the period of December, January and February. Since recent time the big German tourist company "AirTours" also participates in the programm.

The annual Arts Festival "Russian Winter" has been already existing for 40 years. It has no original concept. During the Soviet times "Russian Winter" was the name of practically all the concerts held within the period of December - beginning of January. The opening and closing Ceremony was held in the form of a big Gala-Concert. Now "Russian Winter" is limited by the concerts held in the Philharmonic Society halls and theater performances.

*The View of St.Isaac's*

# THE SCHOOL...



Reception

*Too little time, but have been learning loads in this short time! Thanks! Your program fitted perfectly with my vacation plans. I'm really glad I came to do this course, the environment in this school is something completely different from my experience. Extremely friendly and personal atmosphere and gret teachers. I might very well come back at some point!*

**Jonas Helseth, Norway**

## Why study at our Centre?

Studying in Russia is a life-altering experience. Living in a different culture will help you see the world from a completely different perspective. It is an amazing experience that will change your life.



Our library

Studying in Russia is a chance to gain true language fluency. The only way to truly become fluent in a language is to be immersed in it. If you've studied a language for several years and wish to gain fluency in that language, we can offer you the opportunity to gain fluency in a short time.

Studying abroad is the perfect way to grow as a person. You will broaden your horizons, develop your intellect, and overcome your inhibitions. You will meet new people, see new places, expose yourself to new cultures, engage new ideas and return with a better understanding of the world, your studies, and yourself.

### The top 7 reasons you should choose our courses:

- Quality education with much lower cost
- Admission is flexible, easier and open for all levels
- You may start learn the language from "zero"
- Smaller class size, easier communication with instructors
- Our educational system is friendly to international students
- Wide variety of courses and educational programs
- Special designed short-term programs meet the needs of daily life

### Learn about yourself, be independent!

Studying abroad is an occasion to challenge yourself with new situations that will test you abilities to adapt and learn. You may find yourself questioning some of your most long-held beliefs. All you need to succeed is an open mind and a good sense of humor.

*Good teacher, good group, good family, good course material, good atmosphere, value for money, very helpful! I only come back if I can stay again with my host family - two very nice and interesting people!*

*I highly recommend this school. High quality education at a fair price. Teachers with a real interest in their students, also after school is out. Not only commitment, but really involvement.*

*Not only a school of Russian Language, but also of Russian life, history and culture.*

**Henk Slabbekoorn, Holland**



*WI-FI internet access allows you to have free internet connection in the school not only at our Internet Corner, but also from your own laptop in the classroom*

# "RUSSIAN WINTER" PROGRAMM

**T**he annual **International Sport Competition in Athletics "Russian Winter"**. This sport event is one of the biggest athletics competitions in Russia. Its held under the supervision of All-Russia Athletics Federation



"Russian Winter" by Krylov (1802 - 1831)

The union of PhotoArtists of Russia presents the **"Russian Winter" exhibition**. More than a thousand of works, honoured at different international contests, are presented to the public annually.

## **St.Petersburg Music Festival "The Second Arts Square"**.

According to the words of the conductor Yuri Temirkanov, the author of this stars project, the aim of the festival is "to revive the tradition of the old Petersburg, when the most brilliant events of the cultural life of the capital were held in winter". The programm of "Arts Square" consists of ten concerts which are held in the Big and Small halls of the St.Petersburg Philharmonic Society, the exhibition

of Kazimir Malevitch's works held in the Russian Museum and the Great Ball which is given by maestro Temirkanov on the New Years Eve in the Yusupov Palace of St.Petersburg.

## **Christmas and New Year one more time?**

The Russian Orthodox Church follows the Julian or Old Calendar.

Thus, the Orthodox Church Feasts and Holidays of January are:

Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas) ~ **January 7th**

New Year's Day ~ **January 14th** "Old New Year"



Usually, on Christmas Eve, observant Orthodox Christians fast till late evening, until the first star appears. When the star is seen, people lay the table ready for the Christmas supper. On Christmas Day people take part in divine liturgy, after which many walk in procession to seas, rivers and lakes. Everyone gathers around in the snow for outdoor ceremonies to bless the water. Rivers are frozen, so people make holes in the ice to bless the water. Some take water home to bless their houses. Then a great feast is held indoors where everyone joins in to eat, drink and enjoy themselves.

A Orthodox Russian custom is to serve Christmas cakes and to sing songs. The tradition is mixed with other pagan traditions of ancient Russia such that people may visit their neighbours in disguises, dance, sing and ask for presents, similar to trick-or-treating.

There are similarities, as well as differences, between the Eastern and Western celebration of Christmas. Unlike the West, where Christmas ranks supreme, in the East it is Easter, centred on the cross and the resurrection of Christ, which is the supreme festival of the year. Eastern Orthodox Christmas also lacks the commercial side that is typical of the West.

There are various New Year traditions in Russia as the country celebrates an official and unofficial New Year. In 1699, Czar Peter the Great issued an order for the New Year to be celebrated on January 1st according to the Julian calendar ("Old New Year"). From 1918, Russians celebrated the New Year on 1st January according to the Gregorian calendar and again on 14th January which is 1st January according to the Julian calendar.

Russian New Year traditions include a New Year's Tree known as Novogodnaya Yolka. It is decorated with sweets and has a bright star on top. Another tradition is the arrival of Father Frost or Ded Moroz along with his granddaughter Snegurochka, the snow girl. Children wait for them as they bring New Year presents and keep them under the New Year's Tree. To make Father Frost happy, children sing songs.

# "RUSSIAN WINTER" PROGRAMM



**W**e offer you the possibility to spend a certain period of time in our city learning the Russian Language and enjoying all the beauties of St. Petersburg in winter. You'll have the chance to visit the best theaters, museums and concert halls. You can also have the possibility to visit the suburbs of St. Petersburg in winter, which are really great at this time of the year. The ProBa Educational Centre proposes the cultural program included in the Course fee and tickets to the various cultural events in the office on request.

**Levels:** from total Beginner to Advanced.

**Course dates:** Language Course starts on first Monday of January, and ends on Friday. The accommodation is paid

from Saturday through Saturday .

- 20 lessons per week (4 hours/day)
- maximum 8 participants per group
- course fee **includes** accommodation in shared flat

Course fee ( total two weeks ! )      **EURO 550**

***Following services are included in the course fee:***

Transfer from the airport, entry test, teaching material, course certificate, information material, cultural program ( two excursions), accommodation.

***Prolongation and additional information:***

Prolongation of the course is possible as the Mini-Group course:

- Language Course: EURO 180/week
- Accommodation: EURO 24/day
- Supplementary individual lessons: EURO 20/hour

## ***Enrollment***

To obtain the official invitation from our Centre the following paperwork should be submitted by email to the ProBa office:

1. Filled-in enrollment form (you may print the form from the next page).
2. A photocopy of your valid passport, pages with photo.

**Actual Address**  
**Rubinsteina str 11**  
St.Petersburg, Russia  
Phone: +007 921 906 13 08

**info@russian-learning.com**

**www.russian-learning.com**

**To download full color school brochure with all courses description, please, visit  
www.russian-learning.com**

## Enrollment form

ProBa Centre for Russian as a Foreign Language in St. Petersburg

Name

First name

Country

Tel

E-mail

Nationality

Arrival not earlier than

Departure not later than

The Country/City where you will get Russian Entry visa

Course type (please select)

Begin

Duration (weeks)

Special interests of study

Mother tongue

Other languages spoken

### Your level of knowledge in Russian

### Accommodation

(please select)

(please select)

Beginner

Shared Flat

Elementary

Students hostel

Intermediate

Host family

Advanced

Apartment for rent

Participant organizes accommodation independently

Notes

Please save this form and send to the following e-mail address: [info@russian-learning.com](mailto:info@russian-learning.com)