"THE EASTERN FRONT" WWII RUSSIA—KURSK, MOSCOW & STALINGRAD 30 JUNE – 10 JULY 2022

ST. PETERSBURG POST-TOUR 10-14 JULY







TORICAL TOURS, INC









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Last year we returned for the 79th Anniversary of the Battle of Kursk the Second World War engagement between German and Soviet forces on the Russian Eastern Front during July 1943. The battle began with the launch of the German offensive, Operation Citadel on 5 July, which had the objective of pinching off the Kursk salient with attacks on the base of the salient from north and south simultaneously. After the German offensive stalled, the Soviets launched powerful counterattacks, one of which led to the world's largest armored clash at the Battle of Prokhorovka.

For many historians, the most brutal and titanic struggle of the Second World War was fought between the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany and their allies. From June, 1941 until the fall of Berlin in May, 1945, war was conducted on a grand scale, with the largest concentration of men and material being employed during the conflict. Casualties too,

were on a grand scale, to include massive losses among Soviet Civilians, as well as their military units. During our tour you will have the opportunity to visit the four cities where the most important battles of the Great Patriotic War took place and visit them as part of our 75th Anniversaries of the Eastern Front Tours.

MOSCOW was to have a key role in this devastating war. The initial German plans of Operation Barbarossa concentrated on the destruction of the Red Army, and the offensive against Moscow. By the beginning of December some German formations were only about 40 kilometers north west of the Kremlin before the Russian Winter stalled the advance.

STALINGRAD (now <u>Volgograd</u>) is the site of the fierce and decisive battle which is considered by Russians, and historians, as a turning point in the WWII. The city was totally destroyed in the battle.

KURSK located near Prokhorovka is where the largest tank engagement of WWII was fought. The Russian Victory Celebration will feature WWII period military vehicles with tanks, field artillery, armored personnel carriers, trucks and hundreds of re-enactors in authentic uniforms.

LENINGRAD (now <u>St. Petersburg</u>) is the site of the longest siege in the war. The siege left the city devastated and the population destroyed. Today the city, restored and rebuilt, is a jewel celebrating its vibrant history going back to Peter the Great. A great post tour opportunity.

MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS is proud to offer another in our series of historic anniversary tours to the battlefields of the world. Our tour starts in Moscow and proceeds to Stalingrad, with a comprehensive "on the ground" exploration of the battlefields, continuing to Kursk where the largest armor clash in history was fought and featuring many re-enactors. We conclude our historic pilgrimage with an optional trip to St. Petersburg, one of the world's most beautiful cities.

All of these things, along with fun experienced Tour Leaders that will make your trip the most enjoyable, relaxing, entertaining and educa-



tional experience possible. We welcome your phone calls, letters or e-mails to discuss your tour with one of our Battlefield Specialists.



Tour Price: \$4,450 Based on double Occupancy
Single Room Supplement: \$ 690
Single Train Compartment: \$ 490
Post-Tour Price: \$ 2,595*
Based on double Occupancy
Single Room Supplement: \$ 595*
Tour Price Includes:
All Russian rail (two per compartment)
& air transportation
Russia Visa Service (a <u>\$350 value</u> that makes sure it's correctly done!)
Transfer to/from DME Airport upon arrival ^ & departure (on days listed) *
Fully escorted sightseeing program by experienced English Speaking Tour Leaders & professional drivers
Luxury motor coach throughout tour
Four-Star hotel accommodations
Half Board (All Breakfast & Lunches Dinners only on Day 2 & 5)
Entrance fees to all places of interest listed in the itinerary Airfare Not Included: Book your own or MHT's Optional Airfare-Round-trip economy or business class airfare from your home- town to Moscow DME priced upon registration!

*-Final price dependent on currency conversion rates ^ - Arrival Time Constraint

Daily Itinerary

30 June DAY ONE - DEPARTURE Depart for flight to Moscow.

1 July DAY TWO – ARRIVAL

Upon Arrival in Moscow at Domodedova (DME) the following day, transfer to hotel to check into our hotel, with balance of day to rest and relax or

2 July DAY THREE - MOSCOW

Today we drive outside of the city to enjoy a tour of the Monino Military Aircraft museum. The museum is part of a military airbase and traces the history of Russian aviation from the first days up to the present. In the afternoon we visit the superb Museum of the

Great Patriotic War on Poklonnaya Hill. Hotel: Pushkin/Milan/Budapest Meals: B/L

3 July DAY FOUR - MOSCOW

Drive out to the massive Tank Museum at Kubinka with its huge collection of WW2 armored vehicles, which has only just recently been open to Westerners. After lunch we visit the 42nd kilometer where Germans were stopped on Volokolamsky highway and look at exposition of

WW2 equipment. Hotel: Pushkin/Milan/Budapest Meals: B/L

4 July DAY FIVE - MOSCOW to STALINGRAD

This morning we take a tour around central Moscow including the GUM department store, Lubyanka Square, Red Square and Lenin's tomb before we catch the flight to Volgograd (Stalingrad) (dinner inflight) and check into our hotel for two nights. Hotel: Intourist/

Hilton Garden Inn Meals: B/L/D

5 July DAY SIX - STALINGRAD

Today is a full day of exploring the Stalingrad battlefields including the Mamaev Hill, the Factory District, the Grain Elevator, the Volga river crossing, the Lyudnikov's island, Field Marshal Paulus' last HQ and the famed Stalingrad Panorama. Hotel: Intourist/Hilton Garden Inn Meals: B/L

6 July DAY SEVEN - STALINGRAD to MOSCOW

We take a boat trip up the Volga past the giant Mother Russia monument and up to the Factory District. There will be an op-

portunity for some free time before we catch our return flight to Moscow (snack in flight). Check into our Moscow hotel for a night.



Hotel: Pushkin/Milan/ **Budapest Meals: B/L/S**

July DAY EIGHT **MOSCOW to KURSK**

There will be some free time before meeting and lunch with war veterans in the Counsel of Moscow Veterans (five or more paxs.) After lunch we have a trip to the Armed Forc-

es Museum to look at the Soviet and German relics of the Second World War. In the evening we catch overnight train to explore the Kursk battlefield. Meals: B/L



July DAY NINE KURSĽ

We will arrive in Kursk this morning and take a trip to Poniry Station to look at the events within the battle's 'northern shoulder" and the last Soviet defensive line on

Teplov Heights. In the afternoon, we will have time to visit Marshal Rokossovsky's HQ. Overnight in our hotel located in Kursk. Hotel: Postovaly Dvor Green/ Aurora/Dynasty/Aquamarine Meals: B/L

9 July DAY TEN - Kursk to MOSCOW

We start the day with a drive to Jakovievo and follow the path of the "death ride" of the Fourth Panzer Army. Explore the battlefield around Prokhorovka, the furthest extent of the German advance and the site of the

begin sightseeing. Tonight we gather for a Welcome Dinner and briefing on our tour. Hotel: Pushkin/Milan/Budapest Meals: D Army's 5th Guards Tank Armies. View the WWII re-enactors, static displays and vehicles from all over the world. We will be in Kursk for the 78th Commemoration of the battle that the Germans named Operation Citadel that commenced in July 1943. Visit the museum and monument at Prokhorovka (including the preserved trenches and gun emplacements.) Head for Belgorod and catch the overnight train to Moscow. Meals: B/L

10 July DAY ELEVEN - DEPARTURE

Today we say Dasvidaniya to Russia as we transfer to the airport for the afternoon flights for your return flight to the USA. We arrive back the same day. Or join us to see the magic and history of St. Petersburg Meals: B

Post-Tour to St. Petersburg

10 July (DAY 11) ST. PETERSBURG

We board the high-speed train to St. Petersburg. In the afternoon we depart for the journey following the "Road of Life", arriving at Lake Ladoga. Tour the lakeside museum of the epic struggle of the siege of Leningrad. Hotel: Park Inn Meals: B/L

11 July (DAY 12) ST. PETERSBURG

This morning we have a city tour of Saint-Petersburg which is considered to be the cultural capital of Russia. During the tour we will be visiting the **Peter**

and Paul Fortress which was built to defend the city from Naval threats but was also served as a political prison and a burial place for the Russian Tsars. Hotel: Park Inn Meals B/L

12 July (DAY 13) ST. PETERSBURG

Travel outside the city to the world-famous summer home of Peter the Great, located on the shores of the Baltic Sea. Enjoy both the interior and exterior of this famous palace. Return to St. Petersburg and then visit the famous Hermitage Museum and its renowned display of Russian cultural history. Hotel:

Park Inn Meals B/L

13 July (DAY 14) ST. PETERSBURG

In the morning we will visit the Defense of Leningrad Museum which educates us about the 900-day siege of the city. The second part of the day is dedicated to the battleship Aurora



which fired the shot that began the Russian revolution. Hotel: Park Inn Meals: B/L



14 July (DAY 15) ST. PETERSBURG We head for the airport for our flight to the USA. Meals: B/D (in flight)







WWII Russian Battlefields 2022

