



ROTARY MULTIDISTRICT YOUTH EXCHANGE

FINLAND

Districts 1380-1430

Pori 16.2.2019

Trip to St. Petersburg 28.3. – 31.3.2019

Dear Exchange Student!

The Finnish Rotary Youth Exchange organises a trip to St. Petersburg, Russia. The trip will take place 28th – 31st March 2019. Two buses will take us down there. The routes and schedules of the buses are enclosed in this letter. You will receive also a VISA-form and Host Club Recommendation sheet.

The price of the trip is **514,00 EUR plus the visa charge**, which depends on your nationality. The total price is as follows:

Argentina	The price is 514,00 EUR + 00,00 EUR (Visa charge)	= 514,00 EUR
Australia	The price is 514,00 EUR + 114,00 EUR (-“-)	= 628,00 EUR
Belgium	The price is 514,00 EUR + 61,00 EUR (-“-)	= 575,00 EUR
Brazil	The price is 514,00 EUR + 00,00 EUR (-“-)	= 514,00 EUR
Canada	The price is 514,00 EUR + 114,00 EUR (-“-)	= 628,00 EUR
Chile	The price is 514,00 EUR + 00,00 EUR (-“-)	= 514,00 EUR
Colombia	The price is 514,00 EUR + 00,00 EUR (-“-)	= 514,00 EUR
Croatia	The price is 514,00 EUR + 61,00 EUR (-“-)	= 575,00 EUR
EU-Countries	The price is 514,00 EUR + 61,00 EUR (-“-)	= 575,00 EUR
Ecuador	The price is 514,00 EUR + 00,00 EUR (-“-)	= 514,00 EUR
France	The price is 514,00 EUR + 61,00 EUR (-“-)	= 575,00 EUR
Germany	The price is 514,00 EUR + 61,00 EUR (-“-)	= 575,00 EUR
Hungary	The price is 514,00 EUR + 61,00 EUR (-“-)	= 575,00 EUR
Italy	The price is 514,00 EUR + 61,00 EUR (-“-)	= 575,00 EUR
Japan	The price is 514,00 EUR + 114,00 EUR (-“-)	= 628,00 EUR
Mexico	The price is 514,00 EUR + 114,00 EUR (-“-)	= 628,00 EUR
New Zealand	The price is 514,00 EUR + 114,00 EUR (-“-)	= 628,00 EUR
Peru	The price is 514,00 EUR + 00,00 EUR (-“-)	= 514,00 EUR
South Africa	The price is 514,00 EUR + 00,00 EUR (-“-)	= 514,00 EUR
Switzerland	The price is 514,00 EUR + 61,00 EUR (-“-)	= 575,00 EUR
Taiwan	The price is 514,00 EUR + 114,00 EUR (-“-)	= 628,00 EUR
Thailand	The price is 514,00 EUR + 00,00 EUR (-“-)	= 514,00 EUR
USA	The price is 514,00 EUR + 114,00 EUR (-“-)	= 628,00 EUR

If your nationality is not mentioned in the list, contact me. The visa charges are set by the Russian immigration authorities.

You have to cover the price of the trip yourself. Your host club will not pay it. The price includes:

- tour by bus
- accommodation
- meals according to the program
- English speaking tour guides and the program in St. Petersburg (preliminary program is attached in this letter).

If you participate you will get the second letter with more details.

How to participate

1. Make your decision to join the trip.

Fill the Query <https://goo.gl/forms/u2iTpRIPuUowWna72>

The link will appear in to your email also!!

You have to inform whether you join or not!!

Either way, do it not later than 24th of February!!

2. Parental permission

I need a permission from your own parents, so that you may participate this trip. Email is sufficient. Ask your parents to email their permission to me no later than **24th February 2019**. Inform your school about the trip.

3. Host Club Recommendation

Russian Tour website contains a Host Club Recommendation sheet. Give it **immediately** to your host club counsellor. The instructions of the recommendation are given in the sheet. It is important, that you give this sheet to your counsellor, because without the recommendation you cannot join the trip.

4. Passport

Mail your **original passport** to the Travel Agency (address at the end of this letter)! The passport must be valid at least 6 months after the trip. The Russian authorities grant visas to original passports only. They do not accept passport copies. Therefore you need to mail your original passport. You will get your passport (and the visa stamped in it) back in the bus to St. Petersburg. So far no passports have been lost in the mail. If you want, you can mail your passport as a registered letter ("kirjattu kirje"). See contact information below!! In this case the Finnish post office takes full responsibility of your letter. **In any case mark your name and host family address clearly in the top left corner (sender corner) of the envelope.** This helps a lot if your letter needs to be tracked in the mail. If you need your passport before the trip, you can ask it from the Travel Agency. The Travel Agency will, however, charge you 15,00 eur handling cost for the separate mailing.

5. Visa Application (Read carefully info also in a separate information form you have received and asked to fill in)

Fill the separate form (answer all the questions) and send it with your passport to Travel Agency not later than 27th February 2019! (***Attention! Australians and UK citizens send your passport immediately with a certificate of attending to school in Finland and the VISA application! You don't need Finnish residence permit to be send.**) Send also names of you both parents!!!

You have to include one passport photo with your Visa application (see detail below).

Those who does not need Visa for Russia have to send a copy of your passport (not passport) to Travel Agency!!!

Few things to remember when filling your Visa application (see the example):

Your school address IN FINLAND

Your permanent home address IN FINLAND (host family add.)

The photographs submitted must meet with these specifications.

Please provide one recent photograph (**not more than 6 months old**) of yourself. The photographs should be

• **Photograph of 3,5 x 4,5 cm taken against a light background** (white or off-white) so that features are distinguishable and contrast against the background. (**official passport photo**)

- Clear share quality and with the face in focus.
- Printed on normal photographic paper (camera print).
- Full face, non-smiling (without sunglasses, a hat/cap or other head covering, unless the applicant wears such items because of their religious belief or ethnic background).
- Please **DO NOT** stick the Photograph on any paper!.

7. Residence Permit

Take a copy of your Residence Permit card (those from outside EU). The copy must include both sides of the card! (Not Australians if not available)

Send copies along with other documents to Travel Agency!

8. School certificate

Ask a certificate from your school. Show this part of the letter in your school so that they can prepare the certificate correctly. It can be an official form or a free-form sheet of paper, which states that you are a student of the school. An original signature (of the headmaster, student counsellor or similar) and the school stamp is required at the bottom of the paper. The certificate can be in Finnish or in English. Send the certificate to the Travel Agency! It is needed for your visa application.

Your passport, Visa form, photo, copy of your Residence Permit and school certificate MUST be at the Travel Agency no later than 26nd of February 2019.*

9. Payment

Remember to pay the trip not later than **2nd March 2019**.

Account	<i>Saajan tilinumero</i>	FI7117453000000135
Name	<i>Saajan nimi/Saaja</i>	NV – Pietarin matka
Message	<i>Viesti</i>	<u>"YOUR NAME"</u> (USE CAPITAL LETTERS)
Ref.number	<i>Viitenumero</i>	Leave blank
Deadline	<i>Eräpäivä</i>	2nd March 2019
Amount	<i>EUR</i>	xxxx EUR (see the table in the beginning of the letter)

If you pay outside Finland:

Bank: Nordea, Finland
 IBAN-code: FI7117453000000135
 BIC-code: NDEAFIHH
 Bank address: Nordea Bank Finland
 Mannerheimintie 7
 00100 Helsinki
 Finland

Address of the owner of the account:

Rotary Office of Finland
 Iso Roobertinkatu 9 C 17
 00120 Helsinki
 Finland

We strongly recommend that you pay in Finland or use IBAN payment. Paying outside the European Union is possible, but it may lead to extra bank costs (can be up to ~15 EUR), that we need to charge from you. If your parents are paying your trip, you can ask them to transfer the money to your account in the Finnish bank and pay then yourself in Finland. This will minimize the bank charges.

10. Diphtheria and tetanus

We recommend the vaccination against diphtheria and tetanus. Please contact your host club counsellor or school nurse. Your host club has your medical certificate and they can assist you if needed. You do not need any vaccination certificate.

11. Time schedules

Please follow the given information and time schedules carefully. Help us all to get a good experience out of this trip. Remember that YE rules apply. Alcohol drinks (beer included) are not allowed. During the bus trip to St. Petersburg you need to sign the rules (see the last page of this letter). By registering to the trip you accept the rules and promise to obey them.

Summary

24th February 2019: Inform if you JOIN the Tour

24th February 2019: Permission from your own parents to me (email; see address below)

2nd March 2019: Make the payment

26th February 2019: Make sure, that your counsellor has sent the Host Club Recommendation to me

26th February 2019: Passport (original), Information form for Visa, photo, copy (both sides) of your residence permit, school certificate to the Travel Agency. (***Australians 24th February 2019**)

If you have an inbound friend, who has not seen this letter (we may have some old addresses), please ask him/her to call or email me. Notice, that this letter (apart from the Visa form) can be found in the Finnish Rotary YE website <http://rye.fi/forms/>.

I look forward to see You all in beautiful St. Petersburg!

Kari Tuominen

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28200 Pori
tel. 0400 – 597 165
email: [karituo\(at\)hotmail.com](mailto:karituo@hotmail.com)

TRAVEL AGENCY:

TE-Matkat Ky
Käsityökatu 26
70100 Kuopio
tel. 017 - 368 2610
fax. 017 – 261 1103
Contact person: Jekaterina Väisänen
[katja\(at\)tematkat.fi](mailto:katja(at)tematkat.fi)

Preliminary Program in St. Petersburg

28.03.

- buses start in the morning
- lunch before crossing the border (restaurant Rajahovi in Vaalimaa) also money exchange
- crossing the border
- arrival to **Hotell Moscow** (around 8.30 PM local time, see e.g. <http://www.hotel-moscow.ru/en/>)
- dinner in the hotel

29.03.

- breakfast
- Hermitage Museum (<http://www.hermitagemuseum.org>)
- lunch in a downtown restaurant
- Kunstkamera, Peter the Great's Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (<http://www.kunstkamera.ru/en/>)
- dinner in the hotel.
- folklore show in the Nikolai Palace (in downtown). Folklore = traditional Russian songs and dances, very entertaining

30.03

- breakfast
- city tour and purchase of souvenirs
- free time in Nevski Prospekt (main shopping street of St. Petersburg). You can have a lunch in a place of your own choice and own cost. Shopping and sightseeing.
- dinner in the hotel
- classical ballet in the evening
- buses back to the hotel in the evening.

31.03.

- breakfast
- departure for Finland
- visit the market place of city Viborg (more souvenirs)
- lunch in Rajahovi
- farewells and bus trip to home

Time Schedule of the Buses

(All stops are at the **bus stations** of the cities unless otherwise noticed!)

Bus #1

I. Seinäjoki	04.30 AM
J. Tampere (railwaystation)	07.00
K. Tuulos (ABC Tuulos)	08.15
L. Lahti (railwaystation)	09.30
M. Kouvola	10.30
M. Vaalimaa (border)	12.00 Lunch

Bus #2

O. Turku	06.15 AM
P. Salo (ABC Piihovi)	07.00
Q. Helsinki (railwaystation)	09.15
R. Porvoo	10.10
S. Karhula	11.30
T. Vaalimaa (border)	12.00 Lunch

Rules for St Petersburg

28th March 2019

- Rotary YE rules agreed in every country and undersigned by me before coming to Finland will apply during this tour.
- I will not use alcohol or possess (including beer and cider) during the trip. Use of alcohol will be reported to my sponsoring district, club, host and my own family. Use of alcohol will prevent me from participating future Rotary tours (e.g. Euro Tour).
- I will not use or possess drugs (including marijuana). I know that the use or possession of drugs will terminate my exchange year without warning. I have been warned that the Russian authorities have strict drug policies and they have no mercy for persons caught with drugs.
- I will always go to my own bus. This way the Rotaries can make sure that no-one gets lost. I will be in-time, when my bus leaves.
- I will not change my room in the hotel. I will be patient with my room mate. The trip lasts only three nights.
- I will not leave the hotel without the Rotary staff. This is for my own safety.
- I will be in my room at 12.00 PM in the evening. I will not make noise or move in the hotel corridors after midnight. I will not go to the hotel night club.
- The tour program is specially made for me. I will participate it.
- When I am in my room I will always open the door when it is knocked, because the Rotaries or the hotel staff may have important information to me.
- I allow the Rotary supervisors and the tutors to check my bags at any time. Any alcohol found in my bags will be taken away. If drugs are found, the Rotary supervisors have to inform them to the Russian authorities. Bags will be checked after the free time in Nevski prospekt.

I know, that violating these rules will be reported to my sponsoring district, club, host and my own family. It may also prevent me from participating in the future Rotary tours (e.g. Euro Tour).

I have read these rules, understood them and I am ready to follow them.