



ROTARY MULTIDISTRICT YOUTH EXCHANGE

FINLAND

Districts 1380-1430

Pori, 20.3.2019

Trip to St.Petersburg 28.3. – 31.3. 2019

Hei !

Thank you for joining the trip to St. Petersburg. There will be 75 of us going there. This is a great opportunity to see a bit of Russia and make a visit to its culture.

Only two buses together will start in Finland; from Seinäjoki and Turku and we will travel all the way using those two buses. You have to stay all the time on the same bus, you've signed in, when ever we'll use them. You cannot change the busses, during the tour!!

The routes and schedules of the buses are enclosed in this email.

Read below carefully!!!

- **Please check now that your name is in the Bus List and that your bus stop is correct!**
- **Times, when the buses are at their stops, are shown in the Bus List. Make sure that you are in your bus stop before estimated time.**

In case your stop is wrong on Bus List, contact me immediately. I am available to you too in case you have any other questions related to this trip.

ATTENTION! Save the following information in to your mobile in case you need our contact numbers f ex in emergency. Also be sure, that you know the supervisor's mobile number on your bus! You might need the number f ex in the morning before boarding.

The Rotary supervisors of the trip are:

Bus #1; Mikko Männikkö, Seinäjoki (mobile phone +358 50 544 5376, mikko.mannikko(at)netikka.fi)

Bus #2; Kari Tuominen, Pori (tourleader, mobile phone +358 400 597 165, karituo(at)hotmail.com)

The tutors of the tour are ex-Rotary exchange students:

Bus#1; Vili Tuomikoski, Lahti (+358443777649, vili.tuomikoski(at)hotmail.com)

Bus#2; Henna Paussu, Turku (+358 451327037, henna.paussu(@)gmail.com)

Bus#2; Anni Sahlberg, Turku (+358 400163994, anni.sahlberg4(at)gmail.com)

Let us all try our best to make this trip a great experience! See you in St. Petersburg!

Kari Tuominen

Tourleader, YEO District 1410

Metsärinteentie 41

28200 Pori

tel. 0400 – 597 165

email: [karituo\(at\)hotmail.com](mailto:karituo(at)hotmail.com)

TRAVEL AGENCY:

TE-Matkat Ky

Käsityökatu 26

70100 Kuopio

tel. 017 - 368 2610

Contact person: Katja Ratsihhina

[katja.ratsihhina\(at\)tematkat.fi](mailto:katja.ratsihhina(at)tematkat.fi)

Memo

- **Passport** You will get your passport and visa in the bus before we come to the Russian border.
If you have your **passport** already, make sure you have it with you.
If you have the **residence permit** card, please take it with you.
Note, that the hotel in St Petersburg will take our passports and keep them for our entire visit. The hotel will return the passports in the morning of our departure. Take a copy of your passport with you!
- **Time schedules** Follow all the given information and time schedules carefully.
- **Money** 50 – 100 EUR spending money would be nice, but you can do with less. You are able to exchange Russian Roubles in Rajahovi (lunch). There you can use cash or your credit card. 1 EUR = 70 Roubles (100 Roubles = about 1,3 EUR).
- **Back** The bus will take you back to the same station, where you got in to the bus. We should be back in Vaalimaa about 14.00 PM on Sunday 31st for lunch, so you can estimate from this the time back in your station. Last year we left Rajahovi at 15.30 and back in Senäjoki Bus arrived at 23.00.
- **Water** Do not drink tap water in Russia. We stop after the border and you can buy water there.
- **Vegetarians** For lunches and dinners the restaurants may have arranged special tables for vegetarians and special diets. Check this first before you choose your seat in the restaurant.

Trip to St. Petersburg 28.3. – 31.3.2019 / The Program

28.3.2019	THURSDAY
12.00	Lunch in Rajahovi restaurant, Vaalimaa
14.00	At the border to Russia
19.00	Arrival to the Hotel Moscow; http://www.hotel-moscow.ru/en/
19.30	Dinner at the hotel
29.3.2019	FRIDAY
08.00	Breakfast
10.00	Departure to Hermitage Museum (http://www.hermitagemuseum.org) If you have an ID card with your photo on (like a <u>Student Card</u>, bus card, train card or similar), take it with you. The card gives you a free entrance to Hermitage, if it contains your photo.
12.45	Walking to “1001 Nights” Restaurang for lunch
13-14.30	Lunch
14.30	Everybody in busses on the way to Kunstkamera museum
15.00-16.00	Tour in Kunstkamera, Peter the Great’s Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (http://www.kunstkamera.ru/en/)
16.30	Dinner at the hotel
18.00	Departure to Ballet by busses
19.00	Folklore at Nikolay’s Palace. See: http://folkshow.ru/folkshow/

Back to hotel after the show!

30.3.2019	SATURDAY
08.00	Breakfast
10.00	Sightseeing in the city of St Petersburg
13.00	Free time in Nevski Prospekt (main shopping street of St. Petersburg). Lunch in a place of your own choice and own cost. Shopping and sightseeing. Be prepared for the bag check when returning to the bus.
16.00	Buses back to the hotel
16.30	Dinner at the hotel
17.45	Departure to Ballet
19.00	The Nutcracker Ballet See: http://www.yacobsonballet.ru/en/afisha/nutcracker
31.3.2019	SUNDAY
08.00	Breakfast
09.00	Departure to Finland
11.00	Visit in the market place of city Viborg
14.00	Lunch in Rajahovi restaurant, Vaalimaa Buses back 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
L2. Kouvola	10.30 Attention!!!
M. Vaalimaa (border)	12.00 Lunch

Bus #2

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

Attention!

On Sunday all the Bus Stops are the same! Shcedule is hard to say since we don` t know how long it takes on custom area! When we will departure from Rajahovi lunch you can count the time, so call then to your host family if necessary!

Attention 2!

Those who came from long way from Bus Stops ask some of your friends if they could have an extra bed for you at their home!

If you planning to departure from Seinäjoki and need a place to overnight, contact Mikko Männikkö, because he is able to help you!!

Guide and Rules for St. Petersburg

Border zone

- Behave yourself and be patient
- Have passport, visa and declaration form ready and handy
- Do not take photos in the border zone.

Hotel

- For your own safety you are not allowed to leave the hotel without Rotary staff
- If you do get lost, remember the name of the Hotel: **Hotel Moscow**.

Rotary Rules

- **DO APPLY** also in Russia. **NO** alcohol (including beer and cider). **NO** drugs. Violations will be reported to your parents, home club and the Euro Tour organisers. Your Euro Tour participation may get cancelled, if you do not behave properly. Attention! If you have to ask yourself: “Is this allowed?” The right answer is: “NO!”

Schedule

- Be in time
- Help your room mate to be in time too
- Write down the mobile phone numbers of the Rotary supervisors and tutors

Bus

- You must travel in the bus where you are booked to.
- Bus will always leave in time and everyone should be IN.

Meals

- You are served payed meals according to the program: some of them are more Russian and some less.
- There will be menus for vegetarians, too.

Program

- Specially designed for you. Everyone must participate in it. Private programs are not allowed.

Sickness

- If you have any problems, contact immediately the Rotary staff

ID card

- Take your **Student ID** card with you (or any card with your photo on will do).

Residence Permit card

- *Remember to take your card with you!!!

Visa Card

- Shops and tax free accept VISA CARD

Mobile phone

- May Work in St. Petersburg, but you may have to pay 5...6 EUR for a short call. Answering the phone costs too. Prepaid SIM card won't work in Russia normally!!

Clothing

- Use comfortable clothing; avoid fancy ones! Keep the weather in mind. For Ballet take something smarter for you!

Laptop, Ipad etc.

- Take care of your laptops, pads etc; there is always a danger of thieves. It might also cost quite much for using internet connection outside hotel. Take special care of your valuables in museums and at the street!

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.