



Volgograd, Mamaev Mound

MS Volga Dream

Moscow to Astrakhan (or reverse) - 13 days/12 nights

Discover the amazing history in the cities along Russia's majestic and beloved Volga River as you cruise from Moscow to the river's delta in the Caspian Sea. From the Golden Horde to the Soviet era, these cities have been witness to some of the most significant events in Russian history.

Day 1 Moscow

Arrival in Moscow. You will be met and transferred to the MS Volga Dream. **D**

Day 2 Moscow

This morning's city tour will introduce you to Moscow's wide boulevards and famous landmarks. Continue with a trip on Moscow's ornate metro system. After lunch at a local restaurant, visit the Old Tretyakov Art Gallery to view its extraordinary collection of Russian art ranging from 12th century icons to 20th century paintings. **BLD**

Day 3 Moscow

Today you visit the Kremlin and explore the State Armoury Museum, housing a spectacular collection of crown jewels, thrones, carriages, Fabergé Eggs, coronation robes and more. Continue to the 15th century Assumption and Archangel Cathedrals. Return to your ship for lunch and begin your cruise along the waterways of Russia. Later this evening, gather for the Captain's welcome reception and dinner. **BLD**



Day 4 Uglich

Afternoon arrival in Uglich, a charming town dating back to the 10th century. Your walking tour includes the Church of St. Dmitry on the Blood where Tsar Ivan the Terrible's son was murdered, sparking a power struggle for the throne and a period of unrest known as the 'Time of Troubles'. Visit the Church of the Transfiguration and enjoy a concert of choral music. **BLD**

Day 5 Yaroslavl

Morning tour of Yaroslavl, founded in 1010 by Prince Yaroslav the Wise and developed as the first port on the Volga. Visit the Spassky Monastery, the Church of St. Elijah the Prophet, with its rich frescoes, and take part in a costumed reception in the Governor's House. **BLD**

Day 6 Nizhny Novgorod

Continue sailing south down the Volga, to arrive in Nizhny Novgorod, one of Russia's main commercial centres. During Soviet times the city was renamed Gorky after the famous Soviet writer. It became the place of exile for dissident physicist Andrei Sakharov and was closed to foreigners. During your city tour you will walk the ramparts of the 16th century Kremlin and later attend a children's folk concert. **BLD**

Day 7 Kazan

This afternoon disembark in the ancient city of Kazan, capital of the Tatarstan Republic and the land of the Volga Tatars who were allies of the Mongols. Ivan the Terrible conquered Kazan in 1552 and forced its Muslim ruler to convert to Christianity. During your city tour you'll see the Kremlin and within its walls - the Qolsharif Mosque. Later you will be entertained by a local Tatar folk group. **BLD**

Day 8 Samara

Mid-morning arrival in Samara, where you will have a city tour and visit the Space Museum. Afterwards, stroll along the Volga esplanade and sample the beer at the famous local brewery. Closed to foreigners in the period following WWII, Samara is now the third largest metropolitan area in Russia after Moscow and St. Petersburg. **BLD**

Day 9 Saratov

Arrival in Saratov - the northernmost colony of the Greek Empire. During the Cold War, Saratov was the centre of Russian military aircraft production. The world's first cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin, was a member of the Saratov Flying Club. You will have a city tour and visit the Radishev Art Museum. **BLD**

Day 10 Volgograd

Today you visit Volgograd, known as Stalingrad from 1925 until 1961. The city is famous as the site of one of the pivotal battles of WWII. During your tour of this 'Hero City' you will visit the dramatic Mamaev Mound, with its giant sword-wielding statue of Mother Russia standing guard on its summit. Continue with a tour of the Panorama Museum, dedicated to the Battle of Stalingrad. **BLD**

Day 11 Cruising

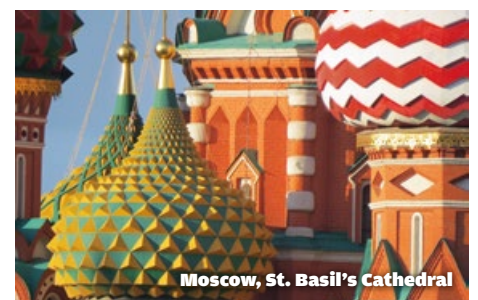
Today is spent on board, relaxing, and taking in the scenery. Evening arrival Astrakhan. **BLD**

Day 12 Astrakhan

The Khanate of Astrakhan was a Tatar feudal state that was established in the 1460s after the collapse of the Golden Horde. Ivan the Terrible annexed it in 1556. This morning visit a local fortress, built during Ivan's reign. After lunch, enjoy an illuminating lecture about black caviar, followed by an optional tasting. **BLD**

Day 13 Astrakhan

Tour services end after breakfast, with your transfer to the airport. **B**



Moscow, St. Basil's Cathedral



Kazan, Kremlin

MS Volga Dream

Moscow to Astrakhan

Day	Destination	Activities
1	Moscow	Embarkation (after 3pm)
2	Moscow	City tour & Metro, Old Tretyakov Art Gallery
3	Moscow	Kremlin & Cathedral, Armoury Museum
4	Uglich	Church of St. Dmitry on the Blood, Transfiguration Church
5	Yaroslavl	City tour, Church of St. Elijah the Prophet
6	Nizhny Novgorod	City tour, children's concert
7	Kazan	City tour, Kremlin, folk concert
8	Samara	City tour, Space Museum
9	Saratov	City tour, Radishev Art Museum
10	Volgograd	Mamaev Mound, Panorama Museum
11	Cruising	Evening arrival Astrakhan
12	Astrakhan	Fortress visit, caviar lecture
13	Astrakhan	Disembarkation (before 10am)

Inclusions

- Arrival & departure transfers (on days 1 and 13 only)
- 12 nights on board MS Volga Dream in outside air-conditioned cabin
- All meals on board
- Complimentary wine & soft drinks with lunch & dinner on board
- Bottled water replenished daily
- Sightseeing as specified with **English speaking** guide
- Entertainment and educational program on board
- Port charges



Astrakhan

Cruise prices & departure ex Moscow

Prices shown per person in AUD. Applicable 2017.

Ship/Sailing dates	Category/Deck									
	Cabin	Main	Promenade				Sun			
	Standard	Superior	Standard	Deluxe	Jnr Suite	Owner's Suite	Deluxe	Jnr Suite	Dlx Jnr Suite	
Ms Volga Dream	Twn	Twn	Sgl	Dbl	Dbl	Dbl	Twn	Sgl	Dbl	Dbl
ex Moscow										
3 May	4125	4775	5425	5150	6050	8100	5350	5825	6050	6825
ex Astrakhan (14 days/13 nights)										
15 May	4625	5275	5925	5650	6550	8600	5850	6325	6550	7325

■ Limited single cabins are available on Promenade and Sun Deck. For sole use of a twin or double cabin - prices are on application. ■ For deck and cabin plans see page 5.



Yaroslavl



Uglich, Church of Tsarevich Dmitry on the Blood