

DAILY PROGRAM

Dagelyks Nieuws

Wednesday, July 5, 2000
ms Maasdam

Gems of the Baltic Sea
St. Petersburg, Russia

Sunrise: 4:49 am
Sunset: 11:18 pm



TIME CHANGE

During the evening of Tuesday/Wednesday, all ship's clocks will be set **FORWARD** one hour. Please adjust your clocks and watches accordingly before retiring.

DRESS FOR THIS EVENING CASUAL

No Shorts or Tank Tops in the Dining Room or the Lido Restaurant.

WHERE'S THE FLEET?

Nieuw Amsterdam Valdez, AK
Noordam Heraklion, Greece
Rotterdam Copenhagen, Denmark
Ryndam Sitka, AK
Statendam Juneau, AK
Veendam Vancouver, B.C.
Volendam Juneau, AK
Westerdam Glacier Bay, AK
Zaandam St. Thomas, USVI
Amsterdam Sailing Sept. 30, 2000
Wind Star Marseille, France
Wind Spirit Bodrum, Turkey
Wind Song Bodrum, Turkey
Wind Surf Corfu, Greece

FROM THE NAVIGATOR

After casting off our lines in Tallinn at 5:30 pm and disembarking the local pilot, we sailed through the Gulf of Finland in an easterly direction to the St. Petersburg pilot station. During the winter, large parts of this area are covered with sea ice and navigation is only possible with the assistance of icebreakers.

RELIGIOUS SERVICE

4:45 pm Catholic Mass Wajang Theater

WELCOME TO ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA

This is a city known by several different names during its history. Founded by Peter the Great in 1703, it was first known as Saint Petersburg, later changed to Petrograd (1914-1924) and then to Leningrad from 1927-1991. St. Petersburg is the second largest city in Russia (after Moscow). St. Petersburg was the capital of the Russian Empire from 1712 until 1918. Today the city is an important seaport, cultural and industrial center.

Located on the delta of the Neva River, St. Petersburg lies about 100 miles (160 km) from the Finnish border. Because the site of the city is on low marsh land, an area prone to flooding, canals were built to assist in drainage. St. Petersburg owes much of its economy to manufacturing. Foremost industries include production of armaments, electrical and power machinery, and ship building. St. Petersburg is also the largest port in Russia with major import/export traffic in commercial and industrial products.

St. Petersburg is divided into 4 sections by the Neva River: the Admiralty side, Vasilyevsky Island, Petrograd Side and Vyborg Side. The Admiralty side is rich with museums, monuments, historical buildings and squares. It is also the nucleus of the original city. Radiating out from this district is the great main thoroughfare, Nevsky Prospekt. Points of interest in St. Petersburg include: the Peter and Paul Fortress, the Summer Palace, the Winter Palace (Hermitage) and Saint Isaac's Cathedral.

A main point of interest to visitors is the Hermitage Museum. Located in the Winter Palace and founded by Catherine the Great, it houses a collection of over three million exhibits which rival the Louvre, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Prado and the British Museum together! For those with historical interests, the battle ship Aurora is docked on the Neva River in St. Petersburg. This is the ship that fired the shot that signaled the start of the Revolution in 1917.

GOING ASHORE

The Maasdam is expected to dock in St. Petersburg, Russia at approximately 7:00 am. As soon as the ship has been cleared by the local officials you may proceed ashore. Please take your Guest Identification Card with you to swipe through the security gates as you leave and return to the Maasdam. The ms Maasdam will be docked overnight in St. Petersburg, Russia. **Please be back on board by 5:30 pm on Thursday, July 6th.**

PASSPORTS

All guests going ashore are required to take their passports ashore with them. **All guests not on tour must have a valid Russian visa to go ashore.**

SERVICE HOURS

INFORMATION Dial 90
 EMERGENCY Dial 911
 SHORE EXCURSION OFFICE (Prom Deck)
 Closed
 CASINO (Upper Promenade Deck 8)
 Closed
 OCEAN BOUTIQUES (Up. Pr. 8)
 Closed
 PHOTO GALLERY (Prom. Deck 7)
 7:30 pm - 10:15 pm
 MASSAGE & BEAUTY SALON
 (Lido Deck 11)
 8:00 am - 8:00 pm
 SAUNA & OCEAN SPA (Lido Deck 11)
 7:00 am - 9:00 pm
 POOLS & JACUZZIS
 Lido Deck: 7:00 am - 10:00 pm
 Nav. Deck: 7:00 am - 7:00 pm
 INFIRMARY - Dial 99 (A Deck 4)
 Nurse on duty: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
 PHYSICIAN'S CONSULTING HOURS
 8:00 am - 9:00 am
 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
 GUEST RELATIONS MGR. (Prom. 7)
 9:00 am - 11:00 am
 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
 CURRENCY EXCHANGE (Prom. 7)
 Closed
 PORT LECTURER (Deck 8)
 7:30 am - 9:15 am on the pier
 SPANISH DESK (Deck 8, aft)
 7:30 am - 9:30 am
 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
 JAVA CAFE (Promenade Deck 7)
 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

DINING HOURS

BREAKFAST
 Lido Restaurant
 Continental Breakfast 6:00 am - 10:00 am
 Express Breakfast 6:00 am - 9:30 am
 Breakfast 6:00 am - 9:30 am
 Rotterdam Dining Room
 Breakfast 6:30 am - 8:00 am
 Express Breakfast 6:30 am - 8:00 am

LUNCH
 Lido Restaurant 11:30 am - 2:00 pm
 Pastry Carousel 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
 Poolside Lido Deck
 Hamburgers/Hot Dogs 11:30 am - 5:00 pm
 Curry/Taco Bar 11:30 am - 2:30 pm
 Sandwich Bar 11:30 am - 2:30 pm
 Pizza Parlor 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
 Dining Room Closed

STEAK DINNER
 Lido Restaurant 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

DINNER
 Rotterdam Dining Room
 First Seating Guests 6:00 pm
 Second Seating Guests 8:15 pm

LATE NIGHT SNACK
 Lido Restaurant 9:00 pm - 12:00 am

ICE CREAM PARLOR
 Lido Restaurant 11:30 am - 2:30 pm
 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 9:00 pm - 12:00 am

Coffee and tea are available 24 hours
 in the Lido Restaurant.

ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA TRAVEL TIPS

Official Language: Russian.
 Local Currency: Ruble. Approximately 23 Rubles = \$1.00 USD, available ashore.
 U.S. Currency: Widely accepted by vendors & taxis, but not for admission to most museums and sights. Credit cards accepted in larger hotels, restaurants and shops.
 Store Hours: 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
 Water: Available for purchase on board.
 Taxis: Many private car owners provide taxi service in order to obtain extra income. Most cars are not metered. Negotiate fare. Taxis on the pier are more expensive than elsewhere.
 Ship's Agent: Inflat Saint Petersburg Ltd.
 10 Gapsalskaja
 198035 St. Petersburg, Russia
 Phone: 251-5857

SAY IT IN RUSSIAN

Good afternoon *dobry den'*
 Good evening *dobry večir*
 Good luck to you! *schisliva!*
 Good *kharashó*
 I don't understand *ya ni panimáyu*
 Do you speak *vy gavariti pa*
 English? *angliski?*
 Repeat, please *avtariti pazhálsta*
 Please *pazhálsta*
 Thank you *spasiba*

LIDO STEAK DINNER

For those guests on an evening tour, as well as those guests wanting an alternative to their usual dinner in the dining room, our Executive Chef Joachim Barelmann invites you to enjoy a delicious Steak Dinner in the Lido Restaurant, from 5:30 pm until 7:30 pm.

CUSTOMS DECLARATION

If you plan to carry ashore over \$1,500.00 in US currency, you must complete a customs form, which can be obtained from the Front Office located on Promenade Deck, 7.

FINE ART SALES, INC.

Come view over 1,000 works
 of Fine Art at up to
 80% off land gallery prices!
 Worldwide shipping available!
 Call the Front Desk and
 ask for Nigel to schedule
 a private showing.



ENVIRONMENTAL

AWARENESS

Holland America Line is a pioneer in on board recycling, and the company hopes to expand its program in the future. Currently, glass, aluminum, white paper, and cardboard are recycled from the ships, depending on storage capabilities and shore facilities.

RUSSIAN CURRENCY

Due to local currency laws, our On Board Currency Exchange is not permitted to exchange Russian Rubles. Consequently, the exchange office will remain closed today.

EXPRESS CHECK-OUT

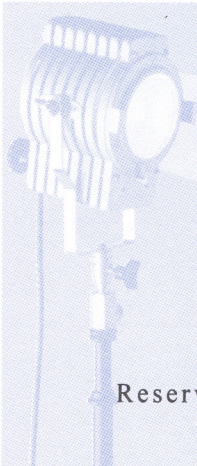
Avoid lines at the end of your cruise. Take advantage of our Express Check-out system. Settle your account in advance by registering your credit card (American Express, Discover, Visa and Master Card) at the Front Office on Promenade Deck, 7.

TAKE HOME A MEMORY

Available at all bars!

A SET OF WATERFORD MILLENNIUM CRYSTAL CHAMPAGNE GLASSES

For this cruise only,
 take home a set of these
 beautiful glasses for only
\$99.00



Entertainment Tonight in the Rembrandt Lounge
8:30 pm for first seating and 10:15 pm for second seating

THE ILLUSIONS OF A TOUCH OF MAGIC

Reserving of seats, audio/video recording and flash photography are not permitted.

TODAY'S TV LISTINGS

Channel 1 or 4 News Channel
(Reception permitting)

Channel 3 or 17 Movie Ch. 1

8:00 am Mystery Alaska
10:00 am The Out of Towners
11:31 am Mystery Alaska
1:31 pm The Out of Towners
3:02 pm Mystery Alaska*
5:02 pm The Out of Towners*
*(Repeated throughout the night)

Channel 4 or 19 Movie Ch. 2

8:00 am Mickey Blue Eyes
9:43 am The Sixth Sense
11:31 am Mickey Blue Eyes
1:14 pm The Sixth Sense
3:02 pm Mickey Blue Eyes*
4:45 pm The Sixth Sense*
*(Repeated throughout the night)

Channel 5 or 21 Cruise Channel

Nautical Information
Casino Gaming Video
Lacquer Box Seminar
Filipino Crew Show

Channel 6 or 8 Port Channel

Shore Excursion Briefing
Port Talk:
St. Petersburg & Helsinki
Cruise Memories Video

Casino Bar Sports Channel
(pending reception)

ABOUT TONIGHT'S SHOW

Master illusionists Richard Burr and Josette have been featured on television worldwide many times. Their unique ability to convey the feeling of real magic has placed them among the most sought after illusion acts performing today. They are headline performers at the famous Magic Castle in Hollywood, California. Richard and Josette's stage credits are quite extensive and include performances for major corporations like Walt Disney, Universal Studios, GTE, NBC and CBS to name a few. Also, many private performances for such celebrities as Johnny Carson, Mel Gibson, Pierce Brosnan, William Shatner, Linda Hamilton, Tony Curtis and Leonard Nimoy. Tonight's show is one you will not want to miss, filled with unforgettable magic and illusion.

TODAY'S MOVIES

Wajang Theater, Promenade Deck 7

DOUBLE JEOPARDY

2:00 pm and 5:30 pm

STARRING: Ashley Judd and Tommy Lee Jones
Thriller - 1 hour 45 minutes - Rated R

THE INSIDER

7:30 pm and 10:15 pm

STARRING: Al Pacino and Russell Crowe
Drama - 2 hours 35 minutes - Rated R

Popcorn is served & soft drinks are available for purchase
15 minutes prior to each feature presentation.

BARS & LOUNGES

OCEAN BAR

Upper Promenade Deck 8
10:00 am - 12:30 am

The Starfire Trio and our Pianist

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
7:15 pm - 8:15 pm
9:15 pm - 12:00 mn
The Starfire Trio
takes your requests.

PIANO BAR

Upper Promenade Deck 8
9:00 pm - wee hours

Perry Grant

9:15 pm - wee hours
Come join him for great
music, spirits and fun.

CROW'S NEST

Sports Deck 12
4:30 pm - wee hours

The Bahamas Quartet

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
7:15 pm - 8:15 pm
9:45 pm - 11:15 pm
KARAOKE
at 11:15 pm

EXPLORERS LOUNGE

Upper Promenade Deck 8
7:30 pm - 12:00 mn

Champagne Strings

8:30 pm - 11:00 pm
A delightful atmosphere
to enjoy a Captain's
Coffee and soothing
classical music

DAY AT A GLANCE!

7:00 am	The ms Maasdam is expected to dock in St. Petersburg, Russia.
7:30 am - 9:00 am	Shore Excursion staff is in the Rembrandt Lounge.
7:30 am - 8:00 am	♥ Walk-A-Mile meet at lifeboat #8 <i>Lower Promenade, Deck 6</i>
7:30 am - 9:15 am	Port Lecturer Joe is available on the pier ashore.
8:00 am	♥ Morning Stretch <i>Ocean Spa, Lido Deck 11</i>
8:00 am - 11:00 am	Happy Hours <i>Beauty Salon & Ocean Spa, 11</i>
9:00 am - 3:00 pm	The Daily Quiz is available <i>Reading Room, Deck 8</i>
9:00 am - 5:00 pm	The Library is open <i>Reading Room, Deck 8</i>
9:00 am - 9:00 pm	Sports Equipment is available <i>Outside Decks 6, 10 & 12</i>
10:30 am	♥ Open Shuffleboard <i>Sports Deck, 12</i>
10:30 am - 11:00 am	Lemonade is served <i>Outside Decks</i>
11:00 am - 2:30 pm	The Wine Desk is open <i>Lido Poolside, Deck 11</i>
2:00 pm	Trivia Quiz <i>Ocean Bar, Deck 8</i>
2:00 pm	Informal Bridge Game (non-hosted) <i>Card Room, 8</i>
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Basketball is available <i>Sports Deck, 12</i>
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Afternoon Tea is served <i>Rotterdam Dining Room, Deck 8</i>
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Enjoy some Iced Tea <i>Outside Decks</i>
4:00 pm	♥ Mixed Volleyball Game <i>Sports Deck, 12</i>
4:30 pm	♥ Walk-A-Mile meet at lifeboat #8 <i>Lower Promenade, Deck 6</i>
5:00 pm	♥ Stretch and Relax Class <i>Ocean Spa, Lido Deck 11</i>
5:00 pm	Friends of "Bill W." Meeting <i>Hudson Room, Deck 7</i>

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Cocktail Time <i>Crow's Nest 12 & Ocean Bar 8</i>
5:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Lacquer Box Sneak Preview <i>Jewelry Shop, Upper Prom., 8</i>
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	STEAK DINNER <i>Lido Restaurant, Deck 11</i>
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Dinner music provided by The Champagne Strings <i>Lido Restaurant, Deck 11</i>
7:15 pm - 8:15 pm	Cocktail Time <i>Crow's Nest 12 & Ocean Bar 8</i>
8:30 pm	SHOWTIME <i>Rembrandt Lounge, Decks 7,8</i>
9:00 pm - 12:00 mn	Cigars Under the Stars <i>Dolphin Bar, Lido Deck 11</i>
10:15 pm	SHOWTIME <i>Rembrandt Lounge, Decks 7, 8</i>
11:15 pm	KARAOKE with the Cruise Staff <i>Crow's Nest, Deck 12</i>

KEEP IN TOUCH

Worried about work? Peace of mind is only a phone call away. Call anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day, direct for \$7.95 per minute from the comfort and privacy of your cabin.

KARAOKE NIGHT

Join the Cruise Staff in the Crow's Nest this evening at 11:15 pm for our Karaoke Night. This is your chance to be a star. We provide the words and the music. All we need is your vocal talents.

TRAVEL TIPS

If you are not taking a shore excursion and are visiting a port of call on your own, we recommend that you: travel in groups; stay in populated areas; carry your ship identification. If you need medical assistance, return to the ship, if possible. Otherwise, please make sure the ship is informed of your situation as soon as possible.

LIDO DRESS CODE

Out of respect for your fellow guests, a shirt and shoes are required at all times when enjoying your meal in the Lido Restaurant. No tank tops please. Thank you!

REMINDER FOR JOGGERS

In order to avoid disturbing those with cabins on Lower Promenade Deck and Main Deck: Joggers, please use the Sports Deck, around the dome. Jogging is not permitted on the Lower Promenade Deck!

HOLLAND AMERICA LINE

calls at ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA

If you cry "Forward!" you must without fail make plain in what direction to go. Don't you see that if, without doing so, you call out the word to both [an aristocrat] and a revolutionary, they will go in directions precisely opposite?

– Anton Chekhov, Russian playwright and novelist. (1860-1904).

No city evokes a more dramatic story than St. Petersburg. Czarist Russian history is one of man's most intriguing tales. Trying to hold the reins of the enormous territory has not been easy, and when the Bolsheviks finally gained their goal, they were astonished to find that were faced with the same problems as the czars before them.

The feudal system was thriving in Russia long after it had been abandoned in the rest of Europe. Imperial decisions never considered the serfs, and at times, the czars even irritated the landowners. Though it must be said that some of the leaders did much to modernize the nation, the working-class citizens never benefited much, and when there was war, aristocratic officers sent peasants into the front lines without a second thought. When Alexander II abolished the feudal system in 1861, the arrangements were poorly drafted and the seeds of revolution were sown along with the crops that year.

When Peter the Great went to war with Sweden, his intention was to capture the swampland at the mouth of the Neva and establish a port thereby opening a marine route to Western Europe. A long series of battles had been fought over the site, but the last conflict finally ended in 1703 (officially 1721) when Peter had the foundations laid for his Peter and Paul Fortress on Zayachy Island. Once the fortress was established thereby protecting the land beyond, he turned to the task of building his great city.

Floods, collapsing foundations, and disease related to the swampy land, hampered construction. Occasionally, there were attacks from the West. In spite of the problems, a magnificent city emerged. Catherine the Great (who succeeded Peter the Great after her husband was murdered) built most of the palaces and brought art to the city.

When Russia became embroiled in ethnic troubles during China's Boxer Rebellion, an extraordinary number of peasants were sacrificed with neither cause nor reason. The citizenry saw these acts as evidence that the aristocracy thought of them as littler more than cannon fodder, and protest erupted in St. Petersburg. In addition, workers were barely able to survive on the pittance they were paid, so they seized the momentum of the war protests to advance their cause before the czar. The revolution really began on January 9, 1905, also known as *Bloody Sunday*. On that date, troops were dispatched from the Hermitage to quell a peaceful protest.

POINTS OF INTEREST

In each port, there are many interesting sights. While we try to include the main points, our listing is by no means exhaustive. Monuments can be crowded.

HERMITAGE

The Winter Palace (*zeem ny dvor ets*) was built for Elizabeth, one of Peter the Great's daughters. Unfortunately, she died before the lavish mansion was completed, so she was never able to live in it. Her son, Peter III,

was the first Russian Czar to live in the palace.

Even if you have already visited the Winter Palace, which was erected as Peter the Great's home, visit again. The gold-trimmed green and white palace now houses one of the world's finest art collections. Many of the best-known artists of the European Renaissance and pre-Renaissance periods are represented. Those who follow statistics will be interested to note that if a person were to

The soldiers fired into the crowd killing several hundred demonstrators. The brutal act unified the previously fractious revolutionaries. It took another 12 years, but on March 1, 1917, Czar Nicholas stepped down.

First-time visitors are often stunned by what they see. The architecture is a unique mixture of French, Italian and Georgian styles. Yet an unmistakable Russian character is reflected in Byzantine domes that are scattered across the city in various monuments. The beautiful Smolny Institute and the Church of the Resurrection of Christ are two examples. Carry plenty of extra film. Crowds are part of the St. Petersburg summer. There is no more important place in recent Russian history than St. Petersburg, after all. The October Revolution started – and ended in the city, and it was home to such famous people as Dostoevsky and Chekhov. For many Russian people, a visit to St. Petersburg is the dream of a lifetime, and guests should expect to encounter throngs. Land tours are arranged with this in mind and wherever possible, they are designed to avoid crowded areas. In order to visit some sites, however, avoidance may not be an option. Directional signs are usually written only in Cyrillic characters and older people often speak only Russian, so guests should make every effort to remain with the guide during land tours. *Authorities at all monuments and museums assess a nominal fee upon entrance for still cameras as well as a separate video camera charge to all visitors in possession of such equipment. It is often not possible to include such fees with the price of a tour because the authorities wish to collect the fee directly.*

As the experiment continues, the Russian Republic and its associated CIS struggle to throw off half a century of failed economic policies that followed centuries of division between an excessive, elite aristocratic class and its starving subjects. Yeltsin, who was always a bold leader, brought the country from the shadows after Gorbachev liberated the old Communist State from its rusty policies a little more than two decades ago. In 2000, he stepped down and Vladimir Putin won the election. Its not going to be easy for Putin. The burgeoning State Duma retains power, sometimes seemingly by a thread, even as the political system continues to evolve in a fashion that is often mysterious even to its citizenry. The fate of the fledgling new Russia remains to be determined, but hope continues as the new order becomes established.

stand before each work of art in the Hermitage for only one minute, the visit would take more than seven years! Of course, this doesn't account for the time it takes to move from exhibit to exhibit. The Hermitage complex occupies five buildings: the Winter Palace itself, the Old Hermitage, the New Hermitage, the Small Hermitage, and the Hermitage Theater. The museum closes Mondays.

PALACE SQUARE

Alexander Pillar, the massive monolith in the center of Palace Square, was built to commemorate Russian victory over Napoleon. Weighing more than 600 tons, only mass keeps it upright. It is not bolted down so don't lean on it! In Palace Square on January 9, 1905, the Russian Revolution was sparked when troops squashed a peaceful worker's protest.

ST. ISAAC'S CATHEDRAL

St. Petersburg's most famous church also ranks as one of the world's largest domed structures. The cathedral is decorated with Russian mosaics and intricate murals, and is trimmed with 14 types of mineral and semiprecious stones.

PETER & PAUL FORTRESS

Peter & Paul Fortress is a good starting point for visitors since it was the first building in Peter's capital. It more or less marks the physical center of the city. Ironically, the fortress, built ostensibly to *defend* the Russian people, was later used to *imprison* them. Opponents of the czarist regime, such as Dostoevsky and Gorky were jailed in the fortress' dark cells, and it is a well-known fact that no prisoner ever escaped. The bastion is the final resting place for all Russian czars, including the last Czar Nicholas II. His remains were placed inside along with those of his family and few of his servants in July 1998. Bolsheviks executed the entire family in 1918 near the Russian city of Ekaterinburg, and their corpses were lost for a while. After they were positively identified in 1990s, they were brought to the fortress where they belonged and buried with all the honors they deserved. The Russian government hoped the conciliatory act would help ease ill feelings between the British aristocracy and Russia. The czar was Queen Elizabeth's relative. The Cathedral, with its beautiful spire, is dedicated to Saints Peter and Paul and is the centerpiece of the fortress.

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

Before 1997, visitors saw only the outside of the beautiful Byzantine Church of the Resurrection, also known as Church of the Savior of Spilled Blood. The ornate domes are unmistakable, and were modeled after the distinctive cupolas of St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow. The church is visible at the end of a tiny canal just off Nevsky Prospect. The church has been converted into a museum of Russian mosaics.

JEWISH ST. PETERSBURG

Most of the Jewish people from the former Soviet republics emigrated during the years. There have long been organized assaults against the faithful, but things began to change with the policy of *glasnost*. Chabad-Lubavich, St. Petersburg's Synagogue, Prospekt Lermontovsky 2, holds services daily.

SMOLNY INSTITUTE

The cathedral and convent of Smolny Institute were built in the 18th century in classical Eastern Orthodox style. The institute was only later established as a school for young ladies of the nobility. The room at the institute in which Lenin lived and worked in subsequent years, is now a museum. With Trotsky as his partner, he set up headquarters for the October Revolution at the center.

PISKAREVSKOYE CEMETERY

An eternal flame and small museum at the entrance of Piskarevskoye Cemetery's memorial grounds are poignant reminders of the 900-day siege of Leningrad during WWII.

PETRODVORETS

Peter the Great's gold-festooned Summer Palace was built on the Gulf of Finland's southern shore. The Czar intended his complex to rival Louis XIV's much-copied Palace at Versailles.

KRETSKY PRISON

St. Petersburg's main prison is the stuff of a Dostoevsky novel. The bizarre location of the structure on a central city street, accessible to the public, reveals something of the national mindset about such institutions. Under the czars, criminals were dealt with in a harsh and expedient manner. After the Bolshevik revolution, the idealist leaders seemingly assumed there would be no more crime. With no oppressive czar, there would be no crime. Obviously, this was an erroneous assumption, so jails had to be created quickly in some cases.

There is a hotel next door to the prison, and family members gather on the street below to commune with incarcerated loved ones. Read some of the famous 19th-century authors to get a good picture of Russian society and crime. You may find chilling parallels to some modern Western societies. An organized city excursion follows the life of the fictional Raskolnikov.

PUSHKIN

Also called *Tsarskoye Tsyelo* (Czar's Village), this scenic municipality is the site of the Russian baroque style Yekaterinsky (Catherine's) Palace. Built in the first part of the 18th Century, the luxurious structure was rebuilt by Rastrelli (designer of the Hermitage) in the middle of the century. Not only are the grounds splendid, the palace is a showcase of period art, architecture, landscaping and sculpture. Most of the amber pieces are reproductions of originals, which mysteriously vanished during WWII. As its modern name indicates, the town is also famous for one of its former residents. Alexander Pushkin lived at the *Tsarskoyeski Lycée*. A monument honoring him stands (*sits*) in front of the complex.

PAVLOVSK

Not far from Pushkin is another pretty village. Here, visitors usually see the Grand Palace of Emperor Paul I, Catherine's son who succeeded Peter the Great. Catherine gave her son this land and had the village planned by her favorite designer, Charles Cameron. Most of the buildings blend seamlessly into the landscape. Especially notable is the palace itself, the Apollo Colonnade and the exquisite Pavillion of the Three Graces. The grounds constitute one of the Europe's largest landscaped parks.

SHOPPING TIPS

The unit of currency is the *rouble*. One rouble is divided into 100 *kopecks*. Since the rouble has been opened to international currency markets, an extreme rate of inflation has made it relatively unstable, and visitors will probably want to ensure they convert only about as much as they require for their short visit. Roubles can be neither imported nor exported without official sanction. Visitors will find an abundance of street vendors and occasionally a local handicraft show where many items are available for purchase. One of the most popular outdoor art markets for tourists is near the Metro Station on Nevsky Prospekt. Though officially frowned upon, foreign currency is widely accepted and for most souvenir items, visitors will have no trouble with authorities. Popular items include Russian *Matreshkas* (nesting dolls), balalaikas, Russian vodka, amber, and other typical Russian handicraft items. Visitors might also find it interesting to visit a typical

Russian department store, such as Gostiny Dvor, 35 Nevsky Prospekt, or Passazh across the street. Dom Knigy (*House of Books*), 20 Nevsky Prospekt, is also worth a visit. The building is a beautiful relic of the last century. *Note that antiques, and works of art, such as Palekh boxes, original paintings by local artists, antique icons, and other items of national interest, such as genuine military effects, are subject to scrutiny and possible confiscation by local officials. Such purchases are supposedly sanctioned only if they have originated at an official government-run store. Be sure to retain the receipt and have it ready to present when returning to the pier. The ship has no control in local Customs matters, so passengers are advised to exercise good sense in making purchases ashore. If you are not sure about a particular item, you assume the risk of losing it should you purchase it.*

DOCKING & TRANSPORTATION

The ship docks at the **Port of St. Petersburg**, near **Narva Arch**. Passengers wishing to venture ashore independently may require special personal Russian visas. The exact requirements change occasionally, so if you are planning to venture ashore independently, please inquire before leaving the ship. Taxis are usually available at the pier, but drivers may not speak your language, so shop around

LANGUAGE

Public signs and business signs are in Cyrillic, although more and more, transliterations in Latin letters are being added for the benefit of tourists. German is spoken, but is not very popular with members of older generations who may still harbor ill feelings about past conflicts. Try a few Russian phrases (phonetically written — ALL CAPS indicates a stressed syllable):

good morning = <i>do braya U tra</i>	hello = <i>ZDRAVST vwi tya</i>
where is ..? = <i>pub ZHAL' sta, gdye..?</i>	good afternoon = <i>do briy DYEN'</i>
see you = <i>da svi DAN ya</i>	how much? = <i>skoy ka STA yit?</i>
good evening = <i>dob briy VYE cher</i>	please = <i>pub ZHAL' sta</i>
too much = <i>O chen' dor uh GOI</i>	I don't understand = <i>NYE pa ni MA yu</i>
thank you = <i>spa SI bub</i>	yes/no = <i>da/nyet</i>
ship = <i>kor ABL'</i>	port = <i>port (nye da le ko narovsky vo ro tub)</i>

As in any large city, please watch for pickpockets – especially in crowded areas. There may be broken pavements or high curbs.

PLEASE WATCH WHERE YOU ARE WALKING.

until you feel comfortable. Hourly rates should be negotiated before leaving the terminal area. The Port is a restricted zone, and no public transportation is available there. It is even quite some distance to the port gate. A ride to the central shopping and sightseeing areas along Nevsky Prospekt should cost about US\$30. Tickets (*beel-ye-tee*) tickets are purchased as you board. A conductor in each vehicle sells the tickets. The price is 2 roubles for the bus, tram, trolley and 3 roubles for the metro (tokens can be purchased in the ticket-office in the metro station).

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

The Europa Grand Hotel is the city's grand *dàme* of the past. The old building was restored in 1991. The English-managed Customs House (*Staraya Tamozhnia*), serving French haute cuisine, is located on the Spit of Basil Island. *Na Zdorovie* (Cheers) offers Russian and Soviet cuisine accompanied by live folk and gypsy music in the evenings. Credit cards are accepted. The *New Island* is a unique restaurant ship offering cruises along the Neva. The restaurant specializes in seafood and offers live music in the evenings. The Stroganoff Yard (*Stroganovsky Dvor*) is an open-air cafe of European standard, in the magnificent courtyard of the Stroganov Palace. All present live music in the evenings. Credit cards are accepted.

Historic Footprints...

862AD	Swedish Viking Rurik establishes the Rurikov Dynasty at Novgorod.
1054	<i>Russkaia Pravda</i> is the first Russian law.
1147	Moscow is established.
1223	Mongol invasion. Russians are defeated.
1472	Ivan III marries Zoe (Sophia), niece of the last Byzantine Emperor
1480	Mongols (Golden Horde) are repelled.
1547	Ivan (<i>the Terrible</i>) adopts the title <i>Czar</i> , later launches pogroms in Novgorod.
1613	Michael Fedorovich Romanov becomes first Romanov Czar.
1682	Peter the Great ascends the throne.
1700	Great Northern War begins.
1713	Capital is transferred to St. Petersburg.
1725	Peter dies after contracting a common cold during the great flood of 1724.
1754-62	Bartolomeo Rastrelli plans Hermitage.
1762	Peter III issues unpopular <i>Rights of the Nobility</i> . After he is murdered, Catherine II the Great) rules.
1812	Napoleon invades, but is defeated.
1821	Feodor Dostoevsky is born in Moscow on October 30.
1825	Nicholas I. Decembrist Uprising.
1846	Peter Carl Faberge born in St. Petersburg.
1861	Cerfs are emancipated.
1869	Tolstoy's <i>War and Peace</i> is published.
1872	Marx's <i>Das Kapital</i> printed in Russian.
1900	Boxer Rebellion. Russia in Manchuria.
1904	Russo-Japanese War erupts.
1905	Bloody Sunday (Oct. 17). Czar's guard murders protestors sparking revolution.
1914	WWI. St. Petersburg renamed <i>Petrograd</i> .
1916	Rasputin is murdered.
1917	Nicholas II abdicates. October Revolution ends in Bolshevik rule under Lenin. Capital is transferred to Moscow.
1934	Soviet Union joins League of Nations.
1939	German-Soviet non-aggression pact is signed. Germany later invades Poland. Stalin is Time's <i>Man of the Year</i> .
1941	Seige of Leningrad.
1945	Yalta Conference sets peace terms.
1953	Stalin dies. Krushchev is party leader.
1956	Khrushchev's <i>Secret Speech</i> .
1962	Cuban Missile Crisis.
1963	Nuclear test ban treaty (Soviet Union, Britain, United States) is signed.
1964	Brezhnev assumes power.
1969	Preliminary SALT talks.
1972	Nixon, Brezhnev meet in Moscow for historic summit. SALT treaty is signed.
1979	Soviet invasion of Afghanistan
1985	Gorbachev's policies of <i>Perestroika</i> and <i>Glasnost</i> eventually end the Soviet era.
1986	Chernobyl accident. Regan and Gorbachev meet at Reykjavik.
1990	Gorbachev wins Nobel Prize for peace.
1991	Boris Nikolaevich Yeltsin becomes first democratically elected Russian President.
1994	Russian invasion of Chechnya
1998	Yeltsin's year of reorganization. Vladimir Putin is eventually confirmed as PM.
2000	Putin becomes president in March.

Complimentary port information is as accurate as possible at the time of writing.

Since many elements are subject to change without notice, neither Holland America Line nor its agents can guarantee absolute accuracy. This information should therefore be used as a guideline only.

