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THE UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH CAROLINA
GENERAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
JULY 26-AUGUST 8, 2014

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Program Highlights

- Unpack just once and let River Victoria transport you to Russia's great sites.
- Gain greater insight into "Mother Russia" with onboard lectures conducted by a resident historian.
- Make the most of Moscow with specially arranged visits to the Kremlin, the Armory Museum, Red Square, plus many more landmarks and time to explore on your own.
- Embrace St. Petersburg and take your seat at the magnificent Alexandrinsky Theater, the oldest Russian national theater.
- Receive early entrance to the Hermitage Museum, one of the world's largest and most valuable collections of fine art.
- Admire Russian architecture in Uglich and Yaroslavl, two cities on the Golden Ring, an area with deep-rooted traditions.

iscover the soul of Russia as you cruise its imperial waterways on the elegant River Victoria, an intimate boutique river cruiser.

Your adventure begins in Moscow, Russia's spiritual and political epicenter. Linger in majestic Red Square, explore the Kremlin and rub shoulders with locals in this prosperous capital city. Then follow in the wake of Peter the Great, the larger-than-life czar who sailed along the Volga approximately 300 years ago on a quest to modernize his country and make it an equal among the great European powers of the day. Cruise along the Volga, Svir and Neva rivers, where medieval villages, wooden dachas and onion-domed churches unfold along pastoral

the enchantment of sophisticated St. Petersburg, the cultural heart of Russia.

banks. Finally, feel

| UNESCO |

The Kremlin and Red Square in Moscow, the historic centers of Yaroslavl and St. Petersburg and Kizhi

Pogost are UNESCO World Heritage sites featured in this program.



Left: Cafe. GUM Department Store. Moscow

"Moscow is ... next to Constantinople, the earthly paradise of the sight-seer."

~ Captain Harry de Windt, British explorer and author, 1856-1933, "From Pekin to Calais by Land," 1889

"Everything [in St.
Petersburg] is on a vast
and colossal scale,
resembling that of the
empire itself."

~ Sir Nathaniel William Wraxall, English author, 1751-1831, "A Tour Round the Baltic," 1775

"All civilizations are to some extent the product of geographical factors, but history provides no clearer example of the profound influence of geography upon a culture than in the historical development of the Russian people."

~ **George Vernadsky,** Russian-American historian, 1887-1973, "A History of Russia," 1969

There is no shame in not knowing; the shame lies in not finding out.

~ Russian proverb

Dear Carolina Alumni and Friends,

Join fellow Tar Heels and friends and embark on a cultural odyssey, from prosperous Moscow, an ancient city brimming with world-famous landmarks and newfound creativity, to St. Petersburg, Russia's cultural capital that has retained its old-world elegance. Onboard the luxurious River Victoria, you will join a group of Carolina alumni and friends and explore fascinating imperial waterways and some of Russia's most beautiful cities.

This specially designed program offers you preferred access to popular attractions and a unique educational program that will deepen your understanding of this fascinating country.

Throughout your journey, you'll benefit from the value and convenience of group travel. A dedicated team of travel specialists will assist you with all your needs before departure and help you customize your trip with extensions and special arrangements, allowing you to make the most of your adventure.

Don't miss this opportunity to see the wonders of Russia. This program is likely to sell out early, so make your reservation today!

Yours at Carolina,



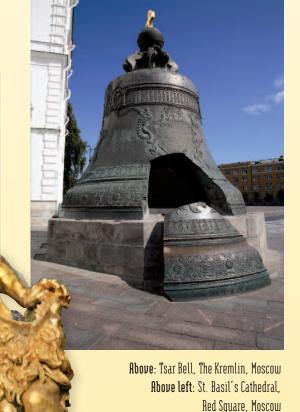
Douglas S. Dibbert '70 President The University of North Carolina General Alumni Association Pruise the heart of Russia

Right: Christ the Redeemer Church, Moscow Below: Arbat Street in the historic center of Moscow Lower right: Russian ballet dancers









Moscow

Moscow is a living monument to more than 800 years of Russian history and culture. Come inside the red brick walls of the Kremlin, a 12th-century self-contained city spanning nearly 70 acres. Witness stunning palaces and golden cathedrals, and marvel at the staggering collection of czarist treasures in the Armory Chamber, including thrones, carriages and Fabergé eggs. Visit Red Square, home of the onion-domed St. Basil's Cathedral, and travel the route of czars along Tverskaya Street. Formerly known as Gorky Street, Moscow's lively grand avenue is lined with wrought-iron street lamps, neon signs and historic homes of former dignitaries.

Valich

Left: Samson fountain

This tranquil town, brimming with historic architecture, originated in the 10th century and is one of the oldest on the upper Volga River. Of special interest is the poignant church of



Left: Church of the Transfiguration, Kizhi Island Lower left: Frescoes, Church of Elijah the

Prophet, Yaroslavl **Below**: Kirill-Belosersk Monastery,

Goritsy





St. Demetrios. Covered with brightly colored tiles and crowned with sky-blue domes, this church is built on the site of the tragic death of Ivan the Terrible's son, Dimitry. Located nearby is the five-domed Transfiguration Cathedral, now a part of the Uglich Museum of History and Art. Uglich is also home to the small, charming Prince's Palace, which dates from the 15th century.

Yaroslavl

Stretching for 18 miles along both banks of the Volga River, Yaroslavl is an important port that was founded in the 11th century by Prince Yaroslav the Wise. The highlight of Yaroslavl is its magnificent 12th-century Spassky Monastery. This vast complex of majestic cathedrals, an elegant rotunda, towers and remnants of a trading center played a prominent role in the political and economic development of the city and acted as a cultural touchstone in the Russian state.

Goritsy

The peaceful farming community of Goritsy, once closed to Western visitors, is a

charming example of rural Russian life. From Goritsy, journey to the Kirill-Belosersk Monastery, founded in the 14th century. Its fortress-like edifice and picturesque lake setting conceal its impressive interior and artifact-filled museum.

Kizhi Island

The beautiful blue waters of Lake Onega surround Kizhi Island, where fantastic structures create a fairy-tale atmosphere. The island's open-air museum reveals 18th- and 19th-century homes and churches. Each building stands in testimony to the craftsmanship and simplicity of wooden architecture built without the use of nails. The Church of the Transfiguration, built in

1714, is the ultimate flight of the imagination; its 22 onion-shaped domes of varying sizes change hues with the passing sun.

Construction of the domes required more than 30,000 aspen shingles.

Right: Musician in traditional Russian folk costume







St. Petersburg

Majestic, gold-domed cathedrals and serene, canal-crossed streets combine to make St. Petersburg one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Peter the Great founded the city more than 300 years ago as a link to Western Europe, and it now is one of the greatest cultural centers in Russia. The prestigious State Hermitage Museum, the city's most famous landmark, contains nearly 3 million works of art. Walk along Nevsky Prospekt, with its shops and churches, and see the Admiralty, one of St. Petersburg's first buildings. At the fork of the Neva River, admire the impressive Peter

Top: Catherine's Palace
Above left: Peter and Paul Fortress, St. Petersburg
Above: Mosaic detail, St. Isaac's Cathedral, St. Petersburg
Paul Fortress, whose construction

and Paul Fortress, whose construction marked the founding of the city in 1703. See the majestic St. Isaac's Cathedral, its gleaming dome is visible for miles. Explore Catherine's Palace, featuring a dazzling blue, white and gold baroque façade. Contained within is the Palace's fabled Amber Room, now fully re-created.

Note: The sequence of the destinations listed may not reflect that of your program. For specific





Matryoshka, perhaps the most popular Russian souvenir, is an intricately decorated series of nested wooden dolls. As a general rule, matryoshkas range from two to 24 dolls in a set, but some of the most rare and intricate sets can include up to 60 individual dolls. The smallest dolls can be as tiny as a fingernail. Craftsmen choose unblemished wood from birch, larch and linden trees to make the dolls. After

the dolls are carved, they are passed to the painter who "dresses them" in bright garments and colorful motifs of traditional Russian legends and fairy tales.

information regarding your itinerary, please refer to the Included Features and Itinerary in this brochure.



Above: Sculpture Hall, State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg

AHI River Cruises feature:

- First-class river cruise ships providing all outward-facing accommodations; friendly, personalized service; and exclusively designed sailing itineraries.
- Pleasant dining aboard ship featuring one seating, European wines and expertly prepared specialties of the region.
- Expert local guides leading thoughtfully designed excursions to enrich your experience of the area.
- A comprehensive, illustrated guide book created exclusively for your program and describing the storied culture and history of the towns, villages and sites.
- Speaker's Corner program showcasing local lecturers who share their insights with you for a unique, in-depth learning experience.







RIVER VICTORIA

The elegant River Victoria invites you to experience the best of Russia as you cruise imperial waterways, including the Neva, Svir and Volga rivers. Inaugurated in 2011 as one of Uniworld's newest river cruisers, River Victoria offers its guests the utmost in quality. Each stateroom offers a view of the passing countryside and a host of amenities to



enhance your experience. You'll be surrounded by style and elegance, and on a ship with a maximum capacity of 206 guests, you'll enjoy an intimate atmosphere.

Soak up the sights of Russia from a lounge chair on River Victoria's sun deck, unwind

in the library or include in a pampering massage onboard. To enhance your experience, River Victoria offers an exceptional gastronomic experience, including a wine program developed by a renowned sommelier and meals created by a professional culinary team using fresh ingredients, many of which are brought onboard from local markets.

Each evening, relax in the comfort of your luxuriously appointed stateroom. Hotel beds, flat-screen TVs with satellite programming, marble bathrooms with deluxe amenities provide all the comforts of home.

River Victoria is part of the deluxe Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection. Discriminating readers of Condé Nast Traveler and Travel + Leisure magazines consistently have named Uniworld one of the best river cruise lines in the world.





Reserve your trip		NOT INCLIDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and
For Office Use Only: B #:		meals not mentioned in this brochure under included fea-
Trip #:1-21114W	PSR:	
Send to: Cruise the Waterways of Russia	1	decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or
The University of North Carolina		whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the
General Alumni Association George Watts Hill Alumni Cente	r CB# 0180	requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations b
Stadium Drive, PO Box 660	1 OD# 9100	refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically us
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-0660		a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit
Toll Free: 877-962-3980		and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.
Please contact 877-962-3980 with questic reservation.	ons regarding this trip or to ma	AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares
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Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on	passport)	cial promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reser
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(1)	Last	ture, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. VARIATIONS TO THE
		GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. Passengers who choose to
(2)		make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred
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Email:		BAGGAGE-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provide:
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Sharing with		gage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces
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Cabin Category Requested: 1st choice		
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available at this time, and pay the singl	e supplement. Should a room	mate be dent, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature
found, I understand the supplement wil	I no longer apply.	howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of
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be made available on a first-come, first-se		tions as have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the
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Enclosed is a deposit of (\$600	per person required)	held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The
to reserve place(s).	International	passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger
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CRUISE PROGRAM July 27-August 8, 2014

Category-Deck	Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price
6-Onega	\$4,945	\$250	\$4,695*
5-Moskva (Fwd/Aft)	\$5,545	\$250	\$5,295*
4-Moskva (Midship)	\$5,745	\$250	\$5,495*
3-Neva (Fwd)	\$6,545	\$250	\$6,295*
2-Neva (Midship)	\$6,745	\$250	\$6,495*
1-Volga	\$6,945	\$250	\$6,695*
Deluxe Suite (Volga/Neva)	\$7,545	\$250	\$7,295*
Junior Suite (Volga)	\$8,445	\$250	\$8,195*
Presidential Suite (Volga)	\$9,345	\$250	\$9,095*

Port Taxes are an additional \$240 per person. All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air program costs (unless otherwise stated). Single prices are available upon request (limited availability).

Suites and Volga and Neva deck cabins feature French doors and balconies. Moskva deck cabins feature large windows. Onega deck cabins feature portholes.

AIR PROGRAM July 26-August 8, 2014

AHI Travel's exclusive Air Program provides special advantages for travelers who are flying on our designated group flights. Reserve your air with us to enjoy a number of important services to help ensure a smooth and relaxing journey. We have negotiated special fares and benefits with our airline partners.

AHI AIR BENEFITS

- Arrival and Departure Transfers including baggage handling.
- **Price Guarantee** protect yourself from fare and fuel surcharge increases.
- Advance Seat Assignments on most airlines.
- Group Discount Business Class Prices on most airlines.
- Flexibility Most programs do not require immediate ticketing, avoiding penalties for cancellations or changes until the tickets are issued.
- A dedicated Passenger Service Representative — a single point of contact to assist you.
- **Knowledgeable Air Agents** will track your flights and assist with any lost baggage, flight delays or cancellations.

ITINERARY

Depart Gateway City*

Arrive Moscow, Russia+/

Day 1

Day 2

Day 12

Day 13

Day 14

	Embark River Victoria
Day 3	Moscow
Day 4	Moscow
Day 5	Moscow
Day 6	Uglich
Day 7	Yaroslavl
Day 8	Goritsy
Day 9	Kizhi Island
Day 10	Mandrogi
Day 11	St. Petersburg

NOTE: This itinerary schedule may change due to local conditions. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking as some of the finest attractions are located in areas not closely accessible by motor coach.

Return to Gateway City*

St. Petersburg

St. Petersburg

Disembark ship/

★Provided for Air Program participants

| INCLUDED FEATURES |

First, Three Nights in Moscow

- •Indulge in the comforts of your "floating boutique hotel," River Victoria, while you explore Moscow, Russia's fascinating capital.
- See Moscow on a breathtaking panoramic tour, from Red Square and St. Basil's Cathedral, to bustling Tverskaya Street, the Bolshoi Theatre and more.
- Visit the Kremlin and see Fabergé eggs, military armor and more in the Armory Chamber, Moscow's greatest museum.
- Celebrate with fellow travelers at a festive Captain's Welcome Dinner.

Next, the Imperial Waterways of Russia

- Cruise for six nights, visiting two of the jewels of Russia's Golden Ring, Uglich and Yaroslavl, in the cultural heart of Russia.
- Witness unspoiled beauty as you sail on the Volga, Svir and Neva rivers and cruise Lake Onega and Lake Ladoga.
- Marvel at the magnificent wooden architecture on the picturesque Lake Onega island of Kizhi.
- Go ashore in Mandrogi for a traditional Russian barbecue lunch and folklore show.

Finally, Three Nights in St. Petersburg

- Discover the city's magnificent architecture, and see Peter and Paul Fortress, the Admiralty and St. Isaac's Cathedral.
- Explore the Amber Room in the baroque Catherine's Palace.
- View the riches of the State Hermitage Museum, and enjoy early access before the museum opens to the public.
- Attend a cultural performance at the historic Alexandrinsky Theater and a Farewell Party aboard the ship.

Many Included Extras

- An extensive meal program including
 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches and 12 dinners.
- Personal VOX listening devices allow you to hear every word from your expert Englishspeaking guides.
- Services of a friendly, professional Travel Director throughout your stay.
- Consultation services of a Passenger Service Representative prior to departure.
- Tipping of excursion guides and drivers.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist you in planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.









Top to bottom:

Entrance to Palace Square, St. Petersburg

St. Basil's Cathedral, Moscow

Eniou sceneru from the deck of the River Victoria

Old-style Public Clock under the General Army

Staff Building Arch, St. Petersburg

Cover photo:

Kremlin, Moscow

A word about your Tour Operator

AHI Travel is the premier operator of deluxe travel programs sponsored by alumni associations. Their experienced, professional staff has offered the highest level of service in **innovative travel programs since 1962**.

In AHI Travel's care, you can rely on:

- An exceptional travel value. It would be impossible for an independent traveler to arrange all these unique experiences, inclusions and services at a comparable price.
- Unique access to local sites. Take advantage of more than 50 years
 of travel experience to gain preferred entrance to popular sites and
 to uncover the region's hidden treasures.
- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- Expertise of local guides who possess authoritative knowledge of the region and offer personal insight into local culture.
- Flexibility and customization. Free time during the trip allows you to pursue your own interests. They will also help you tailor your dream trip with add-ons and extensions.
- Safety and security. In a country where you might not know the language or culture, their professional staff is on hand to ease your way and get you any help you need.

The University of North Carolina General Alumni Association

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