

VRANDOT

taurant & social club

Fine dining restaurant in the center of Moscow

Rolls with crab and foie gras.

26, Tverskoy boulevard Maison DELLOS

Tel. +7 (495) 739-00-11

The Moscow Times

Spring Guide

— Founder and publisher TMT LLC

March 09, 2019

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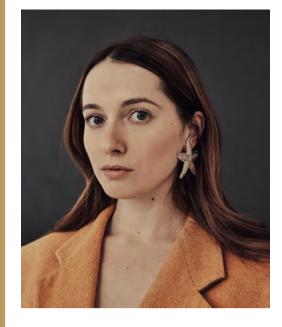
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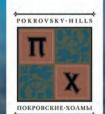
ON STAGE	
THE ARTS	
WINING & DINING	8-15, 26-30
INTERVIEW	
FASHION	
TIPS FROM A LOCAL	

FROM THE EDITOR / 1



pring always brings a sense of relief:

finally there will be no more cold weather; no looking like a cabbage and putting everything on to stay warm; no traveling to and from work in the dark. Spring is for first flowers, first drinks with friends on a sunny terrace, first long walks around the city, and finally the first chance to try something new. To celebrate spring, we have picked the best of two cities – Moscow and St. Petersburg – to make sure you won't miss out on anything. Take this guide on your trip and make sure you try something new this spring. It only comes once a year. Enjoy!



MOSCOW'S ONLY GATED COMMUNITY ADJACENT TO THE ANGLO-AMERICAN SCHOOL OF MOSCOW

ONLY 13 KILOMETERS FROM THE KREMLIN AND NESTLED IN A PARK SETTING, POKROVSKY HILLS IS MOSCOW'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, OFFERING 207 WESTERN-STYLE TOWNHOMES, RANGING FROM 160 SQ.M. TO 340 SQ.M.

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2 / ON STAGE



BOLSHOI THEATER

ne of Moscow's most symbolic attractions, the Bolshoi Theater is known to everyone who has ever seen a hundred-ruble banknote. Rebuilt many times and surviving several regime changes, it is considered one of the greatest and oldest ballet and opera companies in the world. The original Bolshoi group was organized in Moscow in the mid-1770s and remained active even during the Russian Revolution of 1917, both World Wars and the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991. This spring, Bolshoi Theater will amaze spectators with a ballet performance of "Anna Karenina," based on the novel by Leo Tolstoy and featuring the music of Pyotr Tchaikovsky, as well as Puccini's four-act opera "Manon Lescaut."

1 TeatraInaya Ploshchad
 +7 (495) 692 0818
 Metro TeatraInaya, Okhotny Ryad

hile St. Petersburg may be the capital of Russian culture, Moscow may well claim to be its birthplace. Stanislavsky, Chekhov, Tchaikovsky, Pushkin, Tolstoy and many others they all took their inspiration from Russia's capital. Contemporary Moscow is filled with live music from local and international performers, as well as some classical performances such as ballet and opera. Here are a few of them not to be missed!



STANISLAVSKY AND NEMIROVICH-DANCHENKO MOSCOW ACADEMIC MUSIC THEATER

very comfortable and small-ish theater with a great orchestra first opened its doors back in 1918 and quickly became one of the most successful theaters in Russia. The theater itself is beautifully decorated, while the auditorium is small enough to add an intimacy that bigger theaters can't match. This spring, it will showcase its performance of "Vlyublennyy dyavol" (Devil in Love). This is the only opera by Alexander Vustin, a renowned master of the Russian school of composition whose name is little known to the general public. The theater will also host the premiere of the ballet "Inger / Brown / Preljocaj" by Swede Johan Inger, who previously danced in the Nederlands Dans Theater.

17 Ulitsa Bolshaya Dmitrovka
 +7 (495) 723 7325
 Metro Chekhovskaya

KREMLIN BALLET

ocated within the walls of the Kremlin, the Kremlin Palace Hall was built in 1961 to house meetings of the C.P.S.U. (Communist Party of the Soviet Union). The venue has one of the largest stages in Europe and today is the site of a wide array of cultural presentations ranging from ballets and operas to concerts and fashion shows. This spring, the Kremlin Ballet will present classics such as "Swan Lake" in March and May and "The Nutcracker" in April, which are definitely must-sees for first-time visitors.

The Kremlin

+7 (495) 620 7846

Metro Aleksandrovsky Sad, Biblioteka Imeni Lenina





Мумий Тролль music bar & Vladivostok 3000 seafood restaurant 7. Tverskaya st. (Central Telegraph), +7 (495) 510–58–48 www.mumiytrollbar.com @mtbarmoscow @ f У Ж /mtbarmoscow f /vladivostok.moscow3000 @vladivostok.3000

From 6 a.m. till 12 p.m. - seafood

OPEN

HOURS

The best price for the Far East seafood

preakfasts

MUMIY TROLL bar is a place where two fascinating projects have joined together under one roof. VLADIVOSTOK 3000 is a restaurant with Russian cuisine from the Far East and Pacific. Every day in a menu you can try specialities of the area: famous Kamchatka king crab, scallops, variery of seashell food, unique types of prawns from Magadan, mussels and vongole, sea urchins and oysters,

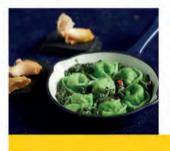
NAYRNIGHT

as well as some other

signature dishes from the famous chef. At night MUMIY TROLL turns into a music bar with excellent cocktails and dance floor. There are live performances by Russian and foreign bands every night, DJ programs. In the morning you can enjoy early or late breakfast.

Where to eat, drink and dance in the heart of Moscow.

Russian pelmeni with Far East whelk — must taste!



24 hours open bar with classic and signature cocktails, great choice of beers





VOLKI & YOLKI GRILL BAR — the bar and restaurant concept mixed with ultramodern sound for gourmets and esthetes. In the evenings the best Dj's playing in the bar. Classical interior built with bricks, wood and copper and filled with art objects and light installations. Interior is modern, comfortable, but very uncommon. The concept of kitchen

– "Wild Eco Russian" is constructed around a fumatory, a josper, and also game varieties: duck, wild boar and moose andothers which are prepared in different variations.

7, Tverskaya st. (Central Telegraph) ///dimich.wolf @dimich.wolf www.volki-yolki.ru Boar burger "Raskolnikov"





4 / THE ARTS

LUZHNIKI STADIUM

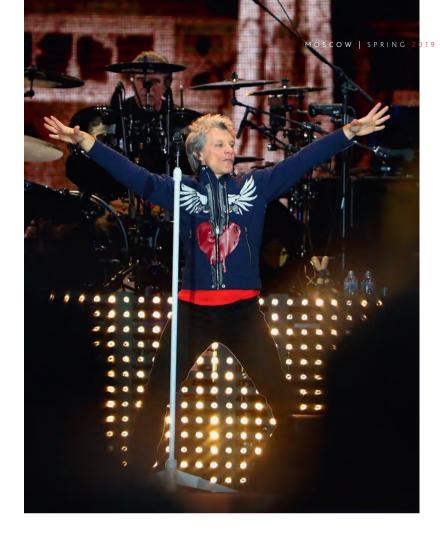
TORUK – THE FIRST FLIGHT

oruk is a Cirque du Soleil touring production that first premiered in December 2015 and is based on the James Cameron movie "Avatar." With creative input from James Cameron himself and experts from the movie's production, "Toruk – The First Flight" is a show that takes you into the world of Pandora and brings it to life. The word "toruk" in the Na'vi language refers to the great leonopteryx that rules over the Pandorian sky.

BON JOVI

egendary American rock band Bon Jovi is heading to Europe for their 2019 "This House Is Not For Sale" tour. The New Jersey stars' run of shows will take in a total of 18 cities starting May 31 in Moscow before the tour hits mainland Europe.

♀ 24 Ulitsa Luzhniki
 +7 (495) 780 0808
 Metro Sportivnaya, Vorobyovy Gory,
 Frunzenskaya





GREAT MOSCOW STATE CIRCUS SANDY TALE

reat Moscow State Circus, considered the largest circus in Europe, is presenting the new show "Sandy Tale" – a continuation of the story of Aladdin and the Genie in the lamp. On the one hand is the Evil Warlock Jafar and his dark army of mystical creatures from the arid desert, scarab beetles, scorpion warriors and two-faced sand spirits. And on the other hand is the brave Traveler and the Genie who lives in the lamp. The show promises to erase all the boundaries between reality and magic and make you believe that miracles exist.

7 Prospect Vernadskogo +7 (495) 930 0300 Metro Universitet

CITION HALL PAUL VAN DYK

Popular German DJ Paul Van Dyk, who released his 9th Studio Album "Music Rescues Me" in early December 2018, is coming to the Russian capital. The new LP of this electronic musician, composer and artist is a celebration of the most mystical, intangible and beautiful in music. This album turned out to be very personal, unifying and diverse; it became an absolute record breaker: Van Dyk recorded it in just 14 months!

S2A/1 Shmitovsky Proyezd +7 (495) 227 1011 Metro Shelepiha



Ноев ковчег

Moscow, Maliy Ivanovskiy pereulok, 9 +7 (495) 917-07-17

на правах рекламы



6



- 1 Untitled, Maurizio Cattelan, 2000
- 2 Opus F3, Rasheed Araeen, 2014
- 3 Jealousy II, Edvard Munch, 1896
- 4 | Multimedia Art Museum
- 5 | Gulag History Museum6 | Girl in a Red Skirt, Nikolai Meshcherin,



1 se

22





art



oscow's rich history and dynamic culture is a key attraction for tourists from all around the world. Here are just some of the highlights of this cosmopolitan capital, as showcased by its everexpanding array of museums and galleries.



GARAGE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Founded in 2008 by Dasha Zhukova and Roman Abramovich, Garage is the first privately owned philanthropic organization in Russia to create a comprehensive public mandate for contemporary art and culture. During the spring, Garage will be hosting Pavel Pepperstein. The "Human as a Frame for the Landscape" exhibition will feature around 80 works that will show his ultra-logical visions of the future; from religions, cults, beliefs and rituals to alternative realities that exist in parallel dimensions. The museum will also present "Rasheed Araeen. A Retrospective": six decades of work by this seminal

artist who has had a profound influence on generations of artists, writers and thinkers around the world.

9/32 Ulitsa Krymsky Val
 +7 (495) 645 0520
 Metro Park Kultury,
 Oktyabrskaya

TRETYAKOV GALLERY

Founded first as a private collection in 1856 by influential merchant and collector Pavel Tretyakov and then presented as a gift to the city in 1892, it is the world's number one museum of Russian art. Comprising literally millions of works of art, it is a place to plunge into Russian life and culture in the best traditions of the world's fine arts. The gallery houses Russian icons and paintings ranging in date from the 11th to the early 20th century. The permanent collection includes artworks of such famous Russian artists as Andrei Rublev, Alexei Savrasov, Vasily Surikov, Ilya Repin, Ivan Shishkin, Valentin Serov, Viktor Vasnetsov, Mikhail Vrubel, Kazimir Malevich and many others.

10 Lavrushinsky Pereulok
 +7 (495) 957 0701
 Metro Tretyakovskaya

NEW TRETYAKOV GALLERY

A part of the Tretyakov Gallery, the New Tretyakov is dedicated to the 20th and 21st centuries of Russian art. It showcases avant-garde artists such as Malevich, Kandinsky, Chagall, Goncharova and Popova, as well as nonconformist artists of the 1960s and 1970s who refused to accept the official style. Beyond the beauty of the different works of art, it is an amazing opportunity to learn a little more about Russian history and art.

10 Ulitsa Krymsky Val
 +7 (495) 957 0727
 Metro Park Kultury

THE PUSHKIN STATE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Opened to the public in 1912, the Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts is one of the biggest museums in the world, housing a broad selection of European works. It has collections of impressionist and post-impressionist paintings, as well as masterpieces from ancient civilizations, the Italian Renaissance and the Dutch golden age. Artists such as Botticelli, Rembrandt, Marc Chagall, Gauguin and van Gogh are all represented. The museum is situated in the very center of Moscow near the Kremlin and Cathedral of Christ the Savior.

12 Ulitsa Volkhonka
 +7 (495) 697 9578

Metro Kropotkinskaya, Borovitskaya

MMOMA (MOSCOW MUSEUM OF MODERN ART)

The Moscow Museum of Modern Art is the first state museum in Russia to concentrate exclusively on the art of the 20th and 21st centuries. The museum was opened on Dec. 15, 1999 by its founding director Zurab Tsereteli, President of the Russian Academy of Arts. His private collection of more than 2,000 works by important 20th century masters was the core of the museum's permanent display. The

TIPS & ADVICE

IN ORDER TO AVOID STAND-ING IN A LONG LINE TO BUY A TICKET, MAKE SURE YOU BUY ONLINE IN ADVANCE. WATCH OUT FOR LONG QUEUES ON THE WEEKENDS WHEN LOCALS POUR IN TO ADMIRE THE LATEST EXHIBI-TIONS!

museum has expanded its collection dramatically in recent years. **25 Ulitsa Petrovka** +7 (495) 690 6870 **Metro Pushkinskaya, Tverskaya**

MUSEUM OF RUSSIAN

The museum, housed in part of the former Bolshevik chocolate factory, has become a favorite place for all lovers of impressionism. Here you will find a great collection of masterpieces of notable Russian artists from the personal collection of museum's founder Boris Mints. It includes more than 70 artworks of famous Russian artists such as Boris Kustodiev, Yuri Pimenov, Igor Grabar, Konstantin Korovin, Petr Konchalovsky, Konstantin Yuon and Valentin Serov.

15/11 Leningradsky Prospekt
 +7 (495) 145 7555
 Metro Beloruskaya

MULTIMEDIA ART MUSEUM

This museum is a contemporary space that focuses exclusively on photography and video arts. It regularly hosts exhibitions that make particularly good use of the cleverly designed video exhibition rooms. The central hallway and stairwell is one of a kind for Moscow with its clean white lines and staircases, vaguely reminiscent of New York's Guggenheim Museum. This spring the museum is hosting the Pirelli Calendar 2019, shot by the renowned photographer Albert Watson who has created a series of images of successful and talented women in color and black and white

16 Ulitsa Ostozhenka
 +7 (495) 637 1100
 Metro Kropotkinskaya

JEWISH MUSEUM AND TOLERANCE CENTER

The center was opened on the territory of the reconstructed historical building of the Bakhmetyevsky bus depot (which was built in the 1930s by the architects K. Melnikov and V. Shukhov). It has become a great center of the city's cultural life. The space of the museum is the world's largest venue dedicated to the life, history, culture and life of the Jewish people. The basis of its exhibition space is not only artifacts, but also information that is presented in an interactive form. The idea was not only to visualize the life and culture of the Jews, but also to show the history of Russia through the prism of its peoples. This will allow you to look at key events of the country's history from different sides – the Revolution, the Civil and the Great Patriotic War. Among the exhibits are documents, letters, a T-3 tank and even a U-2 plane.

11 Ulitsa Obraztsova, Bldg. 1A
 +7 (495) 645 0550
 Metro Novoslobodskaya

GULAG HISTORY MUSEUM

The Gulag Museum was founded in 2001 by A.V. Antonov-Ovseenko, a well-known historian, writer and a public figure, who himself was a prisoner of Stalin's labor camps. The idea was to portray how the Soviet labor camp system functioned from its rise, through its development and then decline. At the museum you can see a huge variety of exhibits, from the letters and memoirs by former Gulag prisoners to their personal belongings, and other exhibits dedicated to one of the darkest periods in the country's history. The museum also displays a collection of artworks by former Gulag inmates and contemporary artists working on this theme.

♀ 9/1 1st Samotechny Pereulok
 +7 (495) 681 8882
 Metro Tsvetnoi Bulvar,
 Novoslobodskaya



THE BEST OF MOSCOW

TURANDOT CHIC AND GORGEOUS

Turandot is a one-of-a-kind concept: the moment you open the door you enter the stunning visual ambiance of bygone times, where the interior is inspired by baroque chinoiserie. The idea was to present the way Europeans imagined Asia and Asian cuisine in the 19th century, when very few people could travel to the East. The menu, which combines modern European cuisine with Asian, is presented as a delicate addition to these incredible interiors.

PRICE RANGE: (2)) Q 26/3 Tverskoi Bulvar +7 (495) 154 0684 Metro Pushkinskaya, Tverskaya

KAZBEK CAUCASUS FINEST

Kazbek is a top-quality restaurant of food from the Caucasus with a nice





pring has arrived in the city, and what better way to celebrate it then to go to a nice restaurant and discover the latest gastronomic trends. Here are our favorites that we would love you to try! interior and a pretty terrace with a view overlooking the Moscow River. Service is efficient and warm. Be sure to try khinkali – traditional Georgian dumplings (really big and juicy) – and their phkali (best in the city).

PRICE RANGE: (2)) 2 Ulitsa 1905 Goda

✓ 2 Ulitsa 1905 Goda
 +7 (495) 651 8100
 Metro Ulitsa 1905 Goda

VOLKI&YOLKI BEERS AND BURGERS

This place is somewhere you would go with your friends on a casual Friday night. The restaurant and bar are combined to create a cool modern ambience. The interior of Volki&Yolki is decorated with huge green chandeliers, each created by hand from 300 bottles of beer. Here, beer plays one of the main roles. The bar offers more than 20 varieties of draft beer from the

PRESS OFFICE



Volkovskaya Brewery. The beers are a great addition to the "Wild Eco Russian" kitchen concept that has duck, wild boar and elk on the menu

9 Maly Ivanovsky Pereulok
 +7 (495) 917 0717
 Metro Kitai-Gorod

PRICE RANGE: 9

7 Tverskaya Ulitsa
 +7 (977) 644 7787
 Metro Tverskaya

NOEV KOVCHEG

THE BEST OF ARMENIA For nearly 20 years, Noah's Ark restaurant has been a place for traditional Armenian cuisine. The menu offers a broad assortment of modern hits from southern cuisine: hummus, haviara, eggplants, fried kebabs and "ishkhan" – a trout from Sevan Lake in Armenia. The musttry signature dish is "kare-kyufta" that comes from the word "kar" or "khar," the Armenian word for "stone." They are made from meat brought exclusively from the farms on the mountain Ararat.

RUSKI DINNER WITH A 360° VIEW

The highest restaurant in Europe is Ruski, located on the 85th floor of the OKO skyscraper in Moscow City. Ruski is holding several gastronomic festivals this spring. Open Russia in Ruski is a program dedicated to the regional cuisines of Russia. Chefs from the best restaurants in the country will present their national dishes and menu favorites. From the cuisine of northern Murmansk to the food of the Tatars, from Kaliningrad to Ulan-Ude, the most interesting and unusual dishes of this large country will be served. Enjoy these festivals as you look out over the best panorama of Moscow in any restaurant of the city.





TIPS & ADVICE

IF YOU'RE PLANNING TO GO OUT FOR DINNER, MAKE SURE TO MAKE A RESERVATION IN ADVANCE. AND DON'T WORRY; MOST RESTAURANTS' WAIT STAFF SPEAK ENGLISH.

PRICE RANGE: 🕑

21/2 1st Krasnogvardeisky
 Proyezd, 85 Floor
 +7 (495) 777 7111
 Metro: Mezhdunarodnaya,
 Vystavochnaya

SEVERYANE GREAT SIMPLICITY

This stylish restaurant, which means "Northerners," will make you feel at home: high-tech magic candles sway in the air above large tables. The dark but inviting atmosphere is complemented by carefully selected music; the waiters are dressed in black and red uniforms that look like they were designed by Malevich. The cuisine, counter to expectations, is not new Russian or Nordic, but international and based mainly on Russian products. Most of the menu is cooked in a Russian oven and grilled; the bread is sourdough, and even the ketchup is made from beets and horseradish. **PRICE RANGE:**

12 Bolshaya Nikitskaya Ulitsa
 7 (499) 348 8332
 Metro Okhotny Ryad, Biblioteka
 Imeni Lenina, Aleksandrovsky Sad

15 KITCHEN+BAR UNIQUE CONCEPT

Hidden in the quiet streets near Kropotkinskaya, this place is like your best friend's house: amazing, tasty food and nicely decorated



rooms inside and outside will make feel like you have been here before. The concept is quite interesting: the chef and the menu changes every three months. At the bar, definitely try the famous house drink in a wooden box. It's a great presentation and taste.

PRICE RANGE: (2) V 15 Pozharsky Pereulok +7 (985) 767 1066 Metro Kropotkinskaya, Park Kultury

MARI VANNA

DINNER AT BABUSHKA'S When you visit Mari Vanna, be

prepared for the full Russian experience. When you arrive and knock on the door, you will be welcomed into the traditional house of a Russian grandmother. Everything will make you feel at home as you indulge in real local comfort food such as Olivier salad with veal tongue, borscht and an amazing honey cake.

PRICE RANGE: (2) V 10A Spiridonyevsky Pereulok +7 (495) 650 6500 Metro Pushkinskaya, Tverskaya

REMY KITCHEN BAKERY IT-PLACE

Don't be deceived by the word "bakery." Remy Kitchen is a full restaurant with good food, a beautiful design and an easygoing vibe. The design is modern yet stylish, the food is tasty and simple. It's





a great place for lunch or brunch after a long walk around Patriarch's Ponds, which is located nearby.

PRICE RANGE: (2) 2 Malaya Bronnaya Ulitsa +7 (985) 182 9600 Metro: Pushkinskaya, Tverskaya, Arbatskaya

DALLA MASALA VEGETARIAN'S FAVORITE

The restaurant, named after the classic Indian dish of lentils and vegetables, has a chef from Nepal who constantly surprises diners with authentic and truly excellent



cuisine. With a team of South Asian cooks, the chef has developed the small menu based on simple dishes and a bouquet of spices that are ground by hand. Be careful: the food is quite spicy, but you can ask for a tamer version. Make sure you try the lemon chicken and the daal, which are the best in the city.

PRICE RANGE: (2)

9 Kalashny Pereulok +7 (499) 426 2604 Metro Arbatskaya

CUTFISH SUSHI AT ITS BEST

Cutfish is not your ordinary sushi place, but a very trendy sushi-bistro loved by locals in a hip part of Moscow. If you love sushi, don't miss this place. It offers all the flavors of Japan and an eclectic assortment of dishes in a comfortable yet crisp decor. All the food is simple, but every dish is sauced and spiced to perfection. The menu consists of all kinds of sushi, rolls and fish. We highly recommend the sushi with eel and avocado, and even sushi with sea urchin.

PRICE RANGE: (2))

17 Bolshoi Kozikhinsky
 Pereulok
 + 8 (926) 936 7876
 Metro Pushkinskaya, Tverskaya.

WHITE RABBIT ULTIMATE GASTRONOMIC EXPERIENCE

White Rabbit is the only restaurant



in Russia that has been included in the list of the Top 50 best restaurants in the world. It is famous for original recipes and its Michelin-star atmosphere. Muscovites love to come here to celebrate a birthday or anniversary and always enjoy the breathtaking view of the city from the 16th floor of the Smolensk Passage Center. The restaurant is packed all the time, so be sure to make a reservation well in advance.

PRICE RANGE: (2)) S 3 Smolenskaya Ploshchad +7 (495) 510 5101 Metro: Smolenskaya



GRAND CAFE DR. ZHIVAGO BEST OF SOVIET GLAM

This restaurant overlooking Red Square in the National Hotel is a place everyone must visit. Be prepared for a Soviet red and white decor and a menu filled with classic Russian specialties, such as Chicken Kiev (a must-try!) and pelmeni (dumplings à la russe). Explore Soviet glam with waitresses dressed in grey and white 1930s-style uniforms. Open 24 hours.

PRICE RANGE: (2)) V 15/1 Mokhovaya Ulitsa +7 (495) 922 0100 Metro: Okhotny Ryad



Moscow, 1905 goda st., 2, phone +7 (495) 651 81 00 www.mykazbek.ru



COFFEE SHOPS

It can wake you up in the morning or cool you down on a hot day in the city — coffee is truly a traveler's best friend. Amazing lattes, cappuccinos, flat whites, drip coffee and maybe even some pastries — here are some places where you can try them all.

ABC COFFEE ROASTERS SCANDINAVIAN MINIMALISM

ABC Coffee Roasters came to Moscow from Omsk and is reminiscent of Stockholm and Berlin coffee houses: minimal white and natural materials create a Pinterest-like space. This is a stylish spot that serves excellent coffee. It's the ideal place to chat with friends while eating a banana muffin and snapping photos for social media.

PRICE RANGE: (2) 7 Ulitsa Pokrovka +7 (495) 222 1036







CHELOVEK I PAROKHOD COFFEE ON THE GO

The main coffee corner in the popular Danilovsky market was opened by coffee veteran Nikolai Chistyakov. In Chelovek i Parokhod (Man and Steamboat) you can buy a package of your own blend of fresh coffee, as well as eat everyone's favorite Portuguese pasteis de nata, which are an ideal addition to a cup of coffee. As for the coffee itself, try the cold brew with condensed coconut milk – the drink that was in everybody's hands all last summer. **PRICE RANGE:**

74 Mytnaya Ulitsa, Bldg. 3
 +7 (916) 241 3503
 Metro: Tulskaya

DELYUS DUSHOI **BEST MATCHA LATTE**

This coffee shop has become one of the most photographed cafes in the city: everyone has an opinion about its pale pink walls and minimalist interior. In addition to coffee classics, you can find everything to feed your Instagram appetite: from house drinks to a photogenic latte served with desserts and vegetarian pastries.

PRICE RANGE: (2)

54 Ulitsa Pyatnitskaya, Bldg. 1
 +7 (909) 682 7742
 Metro Novokuznetskaya

PRESS OFFICE



TABLE LUNCH SPOT

Cafe Table is a perfect place for lunch in a busy city: the interior is designed in a modern style with white tiled walls, round tables, large windows and fresh flowers in massive pots. The menu offers breakfast of timeless classics all day long: scrambled eggs, potato pancakes, croissants, rice porridge, granola and cheesecake.

PRICE RANGE: (2)

45 Lesnaya Ulitsa
 +7 (968) 393 8668
 Metro Mendeleevskaya,
 Novoslobodskaya,
 Belorusskaya

BITTER DROP one of a kind

Located in the popular Artplay Design Center, Bitter Drop is a small and laconic high-tech space of five tables with an ancient Armenian carpet on the wall and a new La Marzocco coffee maker on the counter. The menu is small with some coffee classics and a few fresh pastries and sweets, but each item is refined and carefully selected. Less is more here.

10 Nizhnyaya Syromyatnicheskaya
 Ulitsa, Bldg. 4
 +7 (985) 489 1180
 Metro Kurskaya



KOOPERATIV CHERNY COFFEE COOPERATIVE

The pioneers of the coffee revolution in Moscow started from a market stand and now have a shop in the city center near Chistiye Prudy. The place attracts a boho crowd from around the area. It was the first coffee shop to teach Muscovites how to drink coffee without milk, and the first to introduce alternative methods of brewing. This is definitely one of the best coffee shops in the city!

PRICE RANGE: (2) S Lyalin Pereulok +7 (919) 778 7869 Metro Chistiye Prudy

VAL COFFEE **BE HAPPY**

This new coffee house is in the Støy space, which translates from Norwegian as "noise." This really is a shop to make some noise about: perfectly brewed coffee is served along with craft beer and what many Muscovites consider to be the best burgers in town, from the "U Slavik" sandwich maker.

PRICE RANGE: P 30 Valovaya Ulitsa

No telephone number available Metro Dobryninskaya

NUDE. COFFEE & WINE BAR LOCALS FAVORITE

This trendy cafe and wine bar located near Patriarch's Ponds is a modest eatery with a minimalist designer interior for the modern city dweller. Delicious coffee for every taste and a small but carefully selected selection of wine accompanies a short menu of breakfasts, snacks, soups of the day and sandwiches. The serving dishes have the same modern aesthetic as the space. Everything is simple – just the thing for a casual brunch. **PRICE RANGE:** (2)

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ГУП "Большой Московский государственный цирк на проспекте Вернадского" 119296, г. Москва, проспект Вернадского, д. 7. ОГРН: 1027739526319

14 / WINING AND DINING

oscow is well known for its brilliant nightlife, which has expanded

rapidly over the past few years. In the spring, the capital transforms itself into a place filled with trendy destinations for enjoying the first warm nights of the year. As a popular song says, Moscow never sleeps. Here are some of the best bars to prove it.

KEANU BAR

GASTROBAR

Situated at Patriarch's Ponds, this little bar with brick walls and an easygoing hip atmosphere features a menu filled with Asian delicacies. During the warm spring days, the bar always opens its large windows and arranges an improvised DJ console while people chill on the windowsills. This is the perfect place to have a drink or two after a busy day.

PRICE RANGE: (2)

28 Malaya Bronnaya Ulitsa
 +7 (495) 228 1884
 Metro Pushkinskaya

DENIS SIMACHEV SHOP & BAR

CITY LEGEND

A bit pricey, trendy and very Moscow, this bar on Stoleshnikov Pereulok is covered with a signature Khokhloma print that every local knows. During the day, it is a place for snacks, like their very good salmon pizza, and at night it transforms into the busiest bar (with a strict face control policy) in the city center.

PRICE RANGE: (2))

12 Stoleshnikov Pereulok, Bldg.2
 +7 (495) 629 8085
 Metro Kuznetsky Most

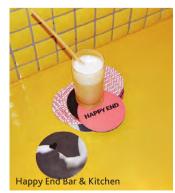
HAPPY HOUR

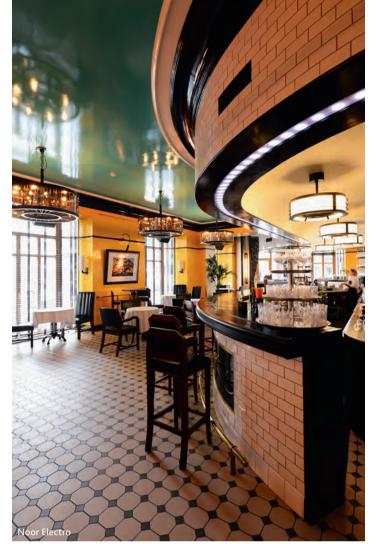
LESS SUGAR BAR

Less Sugar Bar looks exactly like the photos you will find on Pinterest: a neat hexagon tile pattern on the floor, a turquoise-painted ceiling, white brick walls and cautious blotches of pink. Here, everything is done as if a bit of a joke, without too much seriousness or perfectionism. The cocktail menu is made without refined sugar and is divided into four sections depending on the type of alcohol and sweetener. There is no special emphasis on healthy lifestyles in this bar; the idea is to make pleasant "bad habits" a little less harmful.

PRICE RANGE: (2)

24/4 Malaya Bronnaya Ulitsa
 +7 (499) 394 3511
 Metro Pushkinskaya, Tverskaya





NOOR ELECTRO COSMOPOLITAN BAR

Located at the center of the city, Noor is a respectful bar with an aesthetically pleasing interior and a good mix of expats and locals. Cocktails are divided on the menu by style, and the one to try is the signature pomegranate-tini (the bar's namesake is the Armenian word for "pomegranate"). With a certain big city vibe and its unique atmosphere, it is the best place to start off your night or to have a chill cocktail with your friends.

PRICE RANGE: (2)

23/12 Tverskaya Ulitsa, Bldg.1
 +7 (903) 136 7686
 Metro Pushkinskaya, Tverskaya

MENDELEEV BEST COCKTAILS

One of the best bars in the city is not that easy to find: when you reach the address, the only thing you'll find is "Lucky Noodle." But no worries, the entrance to the bar is hidden behind curtains next to the cashier. Visitors can't get on a guest list to enter, and people must pass strict face control to get into this exposed-brick venue. The interior is very posh yet minimalistic, complemented by low-key music. The true stars of the bar are the bartenders. Don't look at the menu; just tell them what you'd like to taste in your cocktail and they'll make your wish come true.

PRICE RANGE: (9)

20/1 Ulitsa Petrovka
 +7 (495) 625 3385
 Metro Kuznetsky Most

HAPPY END BAR & KITCHEN FASHIONABLE SPOT

The most fashionable and mustvisit bar of the moment can be

found at Patriarch's Ponds. The interior is fresh and up-to-date, like a modern apartment in New York, with a cocktail menu that's filled with charming references to 1990s classics. The food menu offers an eclectic international mix,

PRESS OFFICE



TIPS & ADVICE MOST OF MOSCOW'S BARS ARE OPEN FROM 6 P.M. UNTIL THE LAST GUEST LEAVES (SOME OF THEM EVEN 24/7!).

which among other things includes the British version of Peruvian food presented on quirky pink plates. **PRICE RANGE:** (2)

9 Spiridonevsky Pereulok
 +7 (499) 704 6969
 Metro Pushkinskaya,
 Tverskaya

KI AVA

ATMOSPHERIC BAR

Want to have a drink? Want to meet Russians from the upper crust? Or to just have a nice start to your night before going clubbing? This is the place. Klava is a cozy bar where dancing and making noise is allowed from morning to night. The main attraction is the alcohol menu, which features 100 classic cocktails. The menu consists mainly of finger food and snacks, plus classic "drinking" foods like burgers and wok.

PRICE RANGE: (2) 20/1 Ulitsa Petrovka + 7 (495) 626 8563 Metro Kuznetsky Most



MITZVA BAR COCKTAILS IN TEL AVIV

Once you're here, the ambience will make you feel like you're in an underground pub in Tel Aviv. The cozy interior features a mixture of rough stones and wood, ceilings decorated with paintings of Masonic signs and the Kabbalah Tree of Life, and more. Each detail of the decor is intended to make you feel like you're in a Jewish home. The menu is designed like a Jewish "torah," filled with traditional dishes and great cocktails. Don't miss your chance to try "peysahovka"!

PRICE RANGE: (2)

♀ 3/4 Pyatnitskaya Ulitsa, Bldg. 1
 +7 (495) 532 4224
 Metro Kuznetsky Most,
 Chekhovskaya

VELADORA ARRIBA! ABAJO! AL CENTRO! Y PA'DENTRO!

Hidden in the backyard of Pokrovka – not easy to find, but really worth it – this crowded, friendly Mexican bar with great cocktails and food will make you dance to Latin hip-hop until morning. The bar was named after velador, which are glasses that are actually Catholic candlesticks, from which it is customary to drink mezcal in Mexico. To try while there: an authentic taco made with corn tortillas, a mezcal (of course!) and a cocktail. **PRICE RANGE:**

♀ 2/1 Ulitsa Pokrovka
+7 (495) 357-85-48
Metro Kitai-Gorod

KOROBOK

SECRET BAR

Locals' favorite hidden bar (its name means "little box" in Russian) is down the stairs right next to the Tehnikum bistro. In the twilight of the hall, you'll see bartenders in long black overalls and lamps above the counter, constructed from old crab-fishing baskets. Here, you will find no menu and no food – only cocktails which are prepared with unique ingredients such as Sichuan pepper and even black truffle.

PRICE RANGE: (2)

7/5/2 Ulitsa Bolshaya
 Dmitrovka
 +7 (499) 277 0007
 Metro Teatralnaya

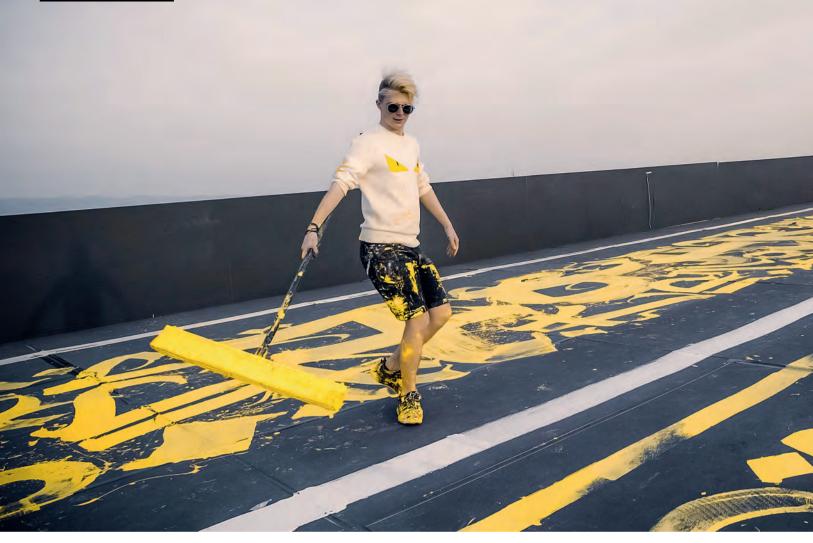
STRELKA ROOFTOP EXPERIENCE

The bar is located in the hip area around the former Red October candy factory, where you'll find plenty of bars, restaurants, shops, clubs and galleries in an industrial atmosphere. On an island in the middle of the Moscow River, the bar is filled with with young representatives of Moscow's bohemia. With good music, eclectic interiors and pre-parties on Friday and Saturday nights, Strelka is a stylish place to enjoy a rooftop view over the river, the city and Christ the Savior Cathedral.

PRICE RANGE: (2)) V 14/5 Bersenevskaya Naberezhnaya +7 (495) 771 7415

+7 (495) 771 7416 Metro Kropotkinskaya





POKRAS LAMPAS

ART MADE IN RUSSIA

TEXT: ALEXANDRA LAVRENOVA

LET'S START FROM THE BEGINNING. WHY DID A GUY WHO LIVED IN MOSCOW AND STUDIED AT UNIVERSITY THERE DECIDE ONE DAY: I'M MOVING FROM MOSCOW TO ST. PETERSBURG AND THAT'S WHERE I'M GOING TO DO ART?

Well, it is important to say that first I studied to work in advertising...

... AND THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ART!

Yes, it's true. And when I came to study, I had a very romanticized idea of the advertising world, on what was going on there: Cannes lions, festivals, everyone hanging out together. By the way, I knew nobody in advertising, neither among friends nor in my family. By the second and third year in the university, when we began to look for some kind of internship, it was a kind of shock for me every time. You come to the design studio and they would immediately hand you some sort of brief in English, some kind of garbage. And as a result – your concept is not accepted, you just wasted time, but yeah you got some experience. It was the same thing with agencies where students made some kind of crappy banner or translated advertisements into

Russian and just neatly input fonts. It was a routine. I realized that the advertising work that I had wanted to do would most likely not come quickly and that I would have to do a lot of unnecessary stuff beforehand. In 2013, I went to the "Design Weekend" in Abrau-Durso, where all the famous art directors, chief designers and top winners of all the ratings sites would attend. There was a very cool community, and I had a chance to speak with most of them personally. Mind you, at the time I was just a young dude who did calligraphy, and that was the only reason they were interested in me. It was the moment when I discovered that everything I thought I knew about design was wrong. I was even wrong about advertising: you do not need a portfolio and no one looks at your education. Your skills and experience are way more important.

YOU WERE ALREADY DOING CALLIGRAPHY BY THAT TIME?

Yes, of course.

JUST AS A HOBBY?

Everything is intertwined here. First, I began to do graffiti when







I was at school, starting at age 16...

...WHILE EVERYONE WAS FLYING AROUND ON SKATEBOARDS, YOU WERE DOING GRAFFITI...

Listen, I skated a bit too, but worse than others (laughs), so yes. I began to draw on the street, and with graffiti, I joined their community and began to somehow develop, participate in festivals. But the level was really not serious because the market was very poorly developed. You might draw at major festivals in Moscow, but that would only give you a few more orders and just a little artistic growth. It was all very parochial. But all the same, being part of this street culture influenced the style in which I work. I had a painting in Yekaterinburg, which I did during the festival "Stenografiya." It was on the arch of an overpass and no one has painted or touched at all in the six years it has been there. Can you imagine that? Nobody has covered over my painting in the very center of Yekaterinburg? Everybody loves it. And then I traveled to Abrau-Durso. That changed everything. When I returned to Moscow, I realized once and for all that I didn't need to waste time on a diploma, on these useless studies.

AND YOU DIDN'T THINK YOU JUST HAD TO STICK IT OUT?

(shakes his head) Absolutely not. I'm a fatalist; I looked and realized that I could grow on my own, that I knew what I needed. So I threw everything away and moved to St. Petersburg.

WHY ST. PETERSBURG?

First of all, St. Petersburg has always been cheaper than Moscow, so it's logical. There is a very cool creative community – plenty of photographers, tattoo artists – a huge interest in subcultures. For me it was important, because you have to constantly shoot something, make art projects and experimental pieces. And I had many friends who were ready to support me and do it all together with me. Plus, I worked as a freelance designer, so it allowed me to work from anywhere, which was very convenient. When I moved to St. Petersburg, in theory I could work remotely at Moscow rates, and at the same time do creative things for myself in order to build up a portfolio.

He is a 27-year-old artist from Korolyov who made a name for himself by covering some of the main buildings of Moscow, Rome, London, Dubai and other cities in "calligrafiti." The cost of his drawings ranges from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Each year about 30 of them are sold worldwide. not counting the various art objects and performances that he creates on a daily basis. He has collaborated with Nike, Levi's, Adidas, Lamborghini, Pirelli and many other brands. We sat with him near the designfactory Flacon in Moscow to learn how he went from advertising to art in just a couple years.





Red October Chocolate Factory building



WHAT LAUNCHED YOUR CAREER AS A CALLIGRAPHY ARTIST?

In 2013 I made a lot of calligraphy sketches, which I posted in my online portfolio: just white calligraphy on a black background. It blew up the internet in the sense that I was one of the first in Russia doing this on a serious level, with an understanding of how modern letters and composition should look. Professionals from completely different fields - like tattoo, design, and fashion - have appreciated it. Then little by little I began to receive some job offers. In 2014 I made my first major project, which was a performance during the Vogue Fashion Night Out at the Tsvetnoy Central Market in collaboration with Nike. I used everything I knew and gave it my all. And everything that I put into the design turned out to be almost identical to the world guides that the largest studios make for Nike. Since then I get invitations all the time to go to various cities to do master classes and workshops. At the same time I got a lot of practice working 8-9 hours every weekend. This allowed me to be financially independent; I didn't need to do any projects that weren't my thing.

WHAT IS YOUR MOST IMPORTANT PROJECT SO FAR?

The whole series with roofs was very good.

IN RUSSIA OR ABROAD?

Everywhere. What I did in Moscow at Red October was our first

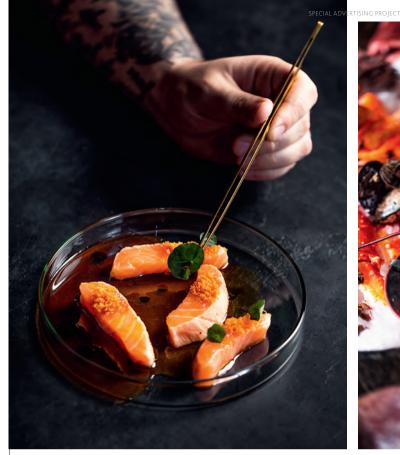
large project. I remember even The New York Times made a video about it. Then I painted the roof of the Fendi building, had a major municipal street-art project in the city of Loures in Portugal, near Lisbon. Plus, of course, the painting in front of the Russian Railways Arena.

NOW YOU ARE WELL KNOWN. WITH SO MANY OF YOUR PROJECTS CONNECTED WITH MOSCOW, DON'T YOU WANT TO RETURN TO THE CAPITAL?

If I move to Moscow, my productivity will go through the roof. There will be a huge number of proposals, meetings, projects and performances. And on the one hand, that's all incredibly good. On the other hand, I immediately bind myself to the local market. When you're in Moscow, you essentially create only for Moscow. In Moscow, there is so much going on that it's really hard to stand out. It makes more sense to take a different path. In St. Petersburg, I do my own creative projects, because an artist still has to grow for himself first and foremost – improve the quality of his work, concepts, texts, and so on. This should be done in an environment that does not distract you, but lets you focus.

DOES MOSCOW DISTRACT YOU?

Of course. Moscow is all about coming and meeting a huge number of people, having interesting offers, commercial or non-commercial. So that's why I chose St. Petersburg as the place where I create, because it's a completely different approach, a different atmosphere, a different mood.



RESTAURANT SELECTION

This is a unique multifunctional project that combines a restaurant, a market and a gastrospace; to create a totally new format - casual fine-dining.

Food for every day, interesting and at the same time understandable, refined and laid-back. Selection offers a wide range of chilled fish and seafood that you can also buy for take away to share with family and friends. An open kitchen of the restaurant occupies 70 percent of the space: a huge glacier with a raw bar, flow-through aquariums for mollusks, lobsters and crabs, a camera for ripening steaks, sausages, ducks, ham and half carcasses – all these open to curious looks of visitors.

Chef Hayk Veyshtort puts technology at the service of the pure taste of the product. For this the team of cooks attented an internship at the Hoffman cooking school in Barcelona, *Michelin. The director of the bar, which is located right in the center of the hall – chef bartender Vasily Zheglov – will intrigue with an original approach to cocktails.







Ombos Moscow, Trubnaya square, 2

20 / FASHION



ith every year, Russian designers are getting more recognition in the fashion world and among fashionistas. Young Russian designers use fashion to celebrate their country's traditions

and history. These top ten fashion designers should definitely be on your radar.

A LA RUSSE

The founder of A la russe, Anastasia Romantsova, inspires women to be elegant while maintaining a commitment to timeless style and femininity. All of the collections are created for the modern woman, and her idea of quality, comfort and beauty. Original and multifaceted Russian culture and traditions are the main source of creativity. The brand delicately combines classic cut lines with modern shapes, allowing you to create looks that emphasize a feminine silhouette. www.alarusse.com

www.alarusse.com

ALENA AKHMADULLINA

The brand was founded in 2001 by designer Alena Akhmadullina, a graduate of the St. Petersburg Academy of Technology and Design. It represents the combination of sensuality, femininity, grace and courage. Alena Akhmadullina uses bright color combinations and natural fabrics, often inspired by Russian folklore and nature. This mix gives a unique style of harmony and inspires self-confident women to be at their best.

www.alenaakhmadullina.com

ALEXANDER TEREKHOV

One of the most popular Russian fashion designers, Alexander Terekhov was educated at the Institute of Fashion and Design in Moscow and completed an intership at the Yves Saint Laurent fashion house. He presented his first collection during the 2004 Moscow Fashion Week. Then he registered his own brand – Alexander Terekhov. He has established himself as a designer of exquisite, feminine dresses with each collection turning into a small masterpiece, shrouded in delicate silk and rich in interesting prints.

www.rusmoda.ru

ESTER ABNER

This fashion house was created in 2012 by Georgian-born Russian designer Esther Abner. The brand has its own recognizable style that emphasizes the dignity of the figure: very feminine proportions, very elegant and clean. Today practically no red NAISSUME SIGNERS

NEBO

SPRING 2019

A LA RUSS

FASHION / 21



carpet is complete without this designer's romantic creations.

www.esterabner.com

RUBAN

Sisters Alice and Yulia Ruban created their own brand in 2011, and for eight years they have been favorites of Moscow and foreign fashionistas. The Moscow-born designers are loved by the public for their multilayered style and combination of various textures. This quickly became the signature of the brand, which has two lines: podium and a second line called PE for girls (named after Alice's daughter Petra-Ivanna).

www.rubancouture.com

NEBO

Nebo (sky in Russian) was created by designer Olesya Shipovskaya and evolved into a serious business out of a small Instagram brand. The collections are a rethinking of the classics and a special look at modern trends, a good mixture of perfect fit and high quality materials, as well as a wide color palette with unique prints. The iconic trouser suits and Nebo brooches are seen on women on both sides of the Atlantic. www.thenebo.com

ULYANA SERGEENKO

The founder of the brand, Ulyana Sergeenko, created her first collection in 2011, and a year later presented her couture dresses during Haute Couture week in Paris. The foreign press calls it "babushka-style," because of her love of retro, classic Russian ethnic elements, baroque style and new look. The brand is famous for its emphasis on a narrow waist, lantern sleeves, peplums, the complex architectural cut of the garment, and rich and fanciful bodices.

www.ulyanasergeenko.com

VIKA GAZINSKAYA

Muscovite Vika Gazinskaya registered her brand in 2006 and a year later presented her first collection. The designer finds her inspiration in everything: art, old movies and Henri Matisse's painting. Her creations are fresh, but with hint of retro. Vika Gazinskaya is famous for her unusual cuts and the complexity of the execution of her dresses: sheath dresses that look more like paper models – voluminous and bizarre, cosmic and graphic. www.vikagazinskaya.ru

VIVA VOX

Viva Vox, founded in 1997, initially specialized in haute couture. In 2005, designer Oleg Ovsiev, a graduate of the Ecole de Couture van Rijn, became creative director. His trademarks are his own unique prints, fur and leather coats as well as dresses, skirts and tops. www.vivavox.ru

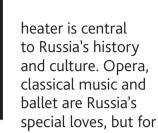
→ guides.themoscowtimes.com

ST. PETERSBURG

ABOUT THE CITY

ST. PETERSBURG ROOFTOPS

Seeing the city from above is a special delight in the northen capital. If you climb onto the roof of any older building in the city center, you'll be able to see the breathtaking city skyline and its major architectural gems, such the beautiful Transfiguration Cathedral.



St. Petersburg, they are integral to the city's identity. The city was once the home of renowned ballet dancers including Anna Pavlova, Rudolf Nureyev and Mikhail Baryshnikov. To this day, St. Petersburg is proud of its worldfamous opera and ballet theaters, the most important of which are the Mariinsky Theater and the Mikhailovsky Theater.



THE MARIINSKY OPERA AND BALLET THEATER

he splendid Mariinsky Theater is where much of Russian ballet and opera began. From 1860, it served as the original stage for many of Russia's most famous composers, ballet dancers and singers. The theater's quintessential ballets are "Swan Lake" and "The Nutcracker," but don't miss out on other all-star ballet, opera and classical music performances. Some of the theater's best operas are "Tosca," "L'elisir d'amore" and Richard Wagner's "Nibelungen" trilogy. The theater's famed historical house has been expanded with two new additions since 2006: the modern Mariinsky-II across the canal, which is best for opera, and the Mariinsky Concert Hall down the street, best for music performances.

1 Teatralnaya Ploshchad
 +7 (812) 326 4141
 Metro Sennaya

THE MIKHAILOVSKY OPERA AND BALLET THEATER

hile smaller than the Mariinsky Theater, the Mikhailovsky is another of the city's top theaters. Founded in 1833, it keeps invigorating audiences with great performances of "Traviata," "Sleeping Beauty," "Le Corsair" or "Chipollino," a ballet for children. Mikhailovsky has also hosted excellent contemporary ballet performances in recent years and is seen as being more open to experimentation. Try to catch the premiere of Tchaikovsky's "Iolanta" staged by conceptual Ukrainian director Andriy Zholdak.

1 Ploshchad Iskusstv +7 (812) 595 4305 Metro Nevsky prospekt



restaurants

Mnatsakanov

of Aram

Simply scan this QR with the camera on your mobile phone and book an



www.probka.org 🕧 🕝 @probkafamily

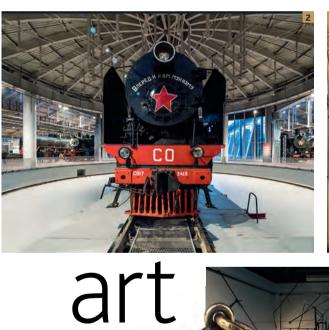
amazing dinner at Probka restaurant

Recommended by The New York Times Louis Vuitton City Guide GQ Gault&Millau Where Magazine

24 / THE ARTS

t. Petersburg, called Russia's "northern capital," is a center of culture and the country's museum capital, with more than 200 to choose from. You can find museums to suit any taste and interest, be it art, sculpture, trains, the military, dolls, radio, history, famous Russian writers, medicine, icebreakers or submarines.







1 Red Seagull, Fedor Konyukhov

- 2 Russian Railway Museum
- 3 The State Hermitage Museum
- 4 Model of bipolar activity,
 - Dmitry Kavargi, Erarta Museum +

5 | Faberge Museum

THE STATE HERMITAGE MUSEUM

The Hermitage is St. Petersburg's landmark museum, with a collection that is no less impressive or rich than those in the Louvre or the Metropolitan. The collection numbers more than 3 million items and is considered to be the largest in the world. In fact, it would take you more than eight years if you looked at every art object of the museum for at least one minute! Partly located in the Winter Palace, the former residence of the Russian tsars who eventually founded the museum's collection, it boasts masterpieces by Picasso and Rembrandt, Gauguin and Monet, Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci, as well as prehistoric, classical and Oriental art exhibits. For medieval sculpture and modern art, check out the Hermitage's new wing, right across the square from the Winter Palace. The new wing will host a fascinating visiting exhibition of art from Pompeii until March 24.

2 Dvortsovaya Ploshchad
 +7 (812) 710 9079
 Metro Admiralteiskaya

THE ARTS / **25**

THE STATE RUSSIAN MUSEUM

The State Russian Museum hosts the largest collection of Russian art in the world. Its exhibits range from medieval 12th-century icons to avant-garde paintings by Vasily Kandinsky and Kazimir Malevich. You can also find beautiful marine paintings by Ivan Aivazovsky and Karl Bryullov that are widely loved in Russia. The museum consists of four buildings, but the main wing, featuring the major masterpieces of the collection, is located in the Mikhailovsky Palace. A major temporary exhibition in the Benois wing will feature Russian religious art of the Middle Ages and will last until May 13.

•7 (812) 595 4248 Metro Nevsky Prospekt

RUSSIAN RAILWAY MUSEUM

The Russian Railway Museum was opened to the public in late 2017 and presents an enormous and fascinating look at the history, technology and design behind the country's most famous mode of transport. You can climb into dozens of historic locomotive and train cars that are housed across the enormous exhibition space. Interactive exhibits, including a train-driving simulator and model train station, will keep visitors of all ages entertained. **9** 114 Naberezhnaya Obvodnogo Kanala

+7 (812) 457 2316 Metro Baltiiskaya

THE KUNSTKAMERA (MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND ETHNOGRAPHY)

The Kunstkamera is best known for Peter the Great's eccentric collection of deformed fetuses, but in fact it also boasts an extensive Soviet-era exhibition on anthropology and ethnography called "The Peoples of the World," which is an informative display of artifacts and wax figures of various ethnic groups from Siberia to South America. The Kunstkamera was the first museum in Russia, and it is one of the oldest in the world. Many of the exhibits were collected by famous Russian explorers of the 19th century. 3 Universitetskaya

S Universitetskaya
 Naberezhnaya
 +7 (812) 328 1412
 Metro Admiralteiskaya

ERARTA MUSEUM

Erarta is the largest private museum of contemporary art in Russia and the best place to go see Russian art from the late and post-Soviet period. It aims to discover,

TIPS & ADVICE

FOLLOWING LOCAL ETIOUETTE, BE SURE TO SPEAK IN A LOW VOICE AND BE GENERALLY POLITE WHEN VISITING MUSEUMS. DON'T RUSH THROUGH THE MUSEUM OR PUSH ANYONE. EVEN IF IT GETS CROWDED. IN MOST PLACES, YOU CAN'T TOUCH THE EXHIBITS. AND THE MUSEUM GUARDS WATCH FOR THIS CLOSELY. **BE SURE TO ONLY BUY** TICKETS FROM OFFICIAL TICKET BOOTHS OR ONLINE. YOU MAY HAVE TO PAY EXTRA IF YOU WANT TO TAKE PICTURES.

collect and popularize works of art created by talented contemporary artists in Russia. You'll have the opportunity to see works of both renowned masters and talented authentic artists who aren't widely known yet. Check out Alexander Savko's absurdist "Heroes-Super" exhibition that runs until May 12. **29th Liniya, Vasilyevsky** Ostrov +7 (812) 324 0809

+7 (812) 324 0809 Metro Vasileostrovskaya

FABERGE MUSEUM

Housed in an opulent palace on the Fontanka River, the Faberge Museum is the perfect museum for those interested in the intricate art that epitomized Russia's imperial period. The museum hosts the world's largest collection of works by Carl Faberge and over 4,000 other works of fine and decorative arts. The museum is relatively new to the scene, having been opened in 2013, but it provides an excellent peek into the city's noble past.

21 Naberezhnaya Reki Fontanki
+7 (812) 333 2655

Metro Gostiny Dvor

GRAND MAKET RUSSIA

This new private museum features an enormous model of a miniaturized Russia that has become extremely popular in the past few years. The model is built to the scale of 1:87 and takes up 800 square meters. It is the largest model museum of its kind in Russia and the second largest in the world. Children and adults love to watch the miniature trains and vehicles move non-stop across the model country and to press the many interactive buttons to send different objects into motion. As an added bonus, the museum features day and night modes that change the the whole image of this miniature country.

16 Svetochnaya Ulitsa
 +7 (812) 495 5465
 Metro Moskovskiye Vorota



Cafe «Rubinstein» A city cafe on St. Petersburg's premier ulitsa of restaurants. Breakfasts from 10 a.m. Sunday brunches from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. We are open until 2 a.m.

20 Ulitsa Rubinshteina, St. Petersburg; tel: +7 960 259-83-93

> € caferubinstein Caferubinstein



$\mathbf{26}$ / wining and dining



THE BEST OF St. Petersburg

PROBKA WINE LOVERS' CENTRAL

Probka is a great place for connoisseurs of wine, fine food and socializing. Its open kitchen and large street-side windows contribute to a lively, bustling atmosphere that is perfect for conversation with friends or a date. Classic Italian dishes are served alongside signature cooking with a modern twist. Try the delectable Mediterrenean fish soup or the Sicilian-style octopus.

PRICE RANGE: (2)) 6 Prospekt Dobrolyubova +7 (812) 918 6910 Metro Sportivnaya

VICTORIA

PANORAMIC FINE DINING

Located on the sixth floor of the Taleon Imperial Hotel, Victoria Restaurant is known for its superb Russian and European cuisine and fine dining. It features a relaxed indoor atmosphere and outdoor terrace with a panoramic view of the city center, including the Moika River and Nevsky Prospekt. The pre-



sentation of dishes is exquisite, as is the menu itself. PRICE RANGE: (2)) > 15 Nevsky Prospekt +7 (812) 324 9911

Metro Admiralteiskaya

TSENTRALNY SOVIET-STYLE THROWBACK

Don't miss this place if you want to dine in Soviet-style interiors and try traditional Soviet and Russian dishes that are popular among locals. Sample delicious borscht; fresh

hile Moscow may be Russia's business and political capital, St. Petersburg has undoubtedly become Russia's capital of food. The local restaurant scene has exploded in recent years, with exotic cuisines from around the world joining tried and true Russian classics. From signature chefs to street food, there's something to suit everyone's taste buds. vatrushka (custard-filled pie); "Russian salad"; vareniki (dumplings with various fillings); kholodets (meat aspic) and various kinds of cutlets and Russian pies served on Soviet-style plates. The food and old Soviet memorabilia give a taste of an era gone by.

PRICE RANGE: (2) Q 62 Suvorovsky Prospekt +7 (931) 233 1655 +7 (812) 577 1548

Metro Chernyshevskaya

L'EUROPE

DINING IN OLD LUXURY

This aristocratic restaurant located in the Belmond Grand Hotel Europe boasts a delectable menu served in a luxurious interior. The early-20th century surroundings, with high ceilings, an arched roof and stained-glass windows, are sure to dazzle guests. The kitchen offers haute-cuisine delicacies like golden caviar of starlet, foie gras, beef rib-eye in Amarena cherry sauce, and veal poached in port. Every Friday, the restaurant hosts Tchaikovsky evenings with a ballet performance. On Sundays, the restaurant also offers the most luxurious brunch in the city accompanied by jazz music.

PRICE RANGE: (2)) Versky Prospekt, 1/7 Mikhailovskaya Ulitsa +7 (812) 329 6000 Metro Nevsky Prospekt







RUBINSHTEIN EUROPEAN ART CAFE

This toney cafe is next to the city's famous Maly Drama Theater. The menu offers European snacks, vegetable salads and pasta, as well as starters such as cheese and sandwiches. It also offers a wide assortment of wines at affordable prices and serves Sunday brunches. It is located on St. Petersburg's most famous gastronomical street, after which it is named. In the spring when the snow starts to melt, Rubinshtein serves the tasty local fish called koryushka, which is lightly fried in batter and smells like cucumbers.

PRICE RANGE: (2) 20 Ulitsa Rubinshteina +7 (960) 259 8393 Metro Vladimirskaya

TIPS & ADVICE

IT IS CUSTOMARY TO LEAVE TIPS RANGING BETWEEN 10 AND 20 PERCENT FOR RESTAURANT SERVICE. TIPS ARE PRACTICALLY NEVER INCLUDED IN THE BILL, SO YOU'LL HAVE TO CALCULATE THEM ON YOUR OWN.

ADZHABSANDAL FEAST LIKE A GEORGIAN

Adzhabsandal is one of the city's most popular restaurants serving Georgian and Azerbaijani cuisine. Be sure to try the grilled lamb chops; khachapuri (cheese-filled bread); lobio (beans and walnut paste) or one of the six types of adjabsandal (eggplant and vegetable stew) on offer. Live music plays in the evenings, and the cozy booths with soft sofas make for an excellent dining experience.

PRICE RANGE: (2) 6 Ulitsa Belinskogo

+7 (812) 579 8477 Metro Gostiny Dvor

BOURGEOIS BOHEMIANS

COURSES GALORE

Nicknamed BoBo, this restaurant features fine dining while retaining a relaxed atmosphere. During the day, it offers a set with four courses



TIPS & ADVICE IN RESTAURANTS, MAKE SURE YOU LEAVE YOUR JACKET OR COAT AT THE COAT CHECK AND NOT ON THE BACK OF YOUR SEAT, WHICH IS CONSIDERED VERY RUDE.

and at night, a set with nine, though a la carte dining is also available. Desserts here are delightful: go for "Botanica," which consists of whipped basil ganache, apple puree, angel cake and pear sorbet.

PRICE RANGE: (2) 5 Vilensky Pereulok +7 (911) 149 1770 Metro Chernyshevskaya

BIRCH COOL FUSION COOKING

Birch functions as a gastro bistro offering unusual signature dishes and fusion cuisine. Don't miss its corn bread with onions and tuna ceviche with date plum. The kitchen is run by four award-winning chefs who combine cooking techniques and ingredients from around the world. The interior is minimalist but remains warm and inviting.

PRICE RANGE: (2)

3 Kirochnaya Ulitsa
 +7 (911) 920 3165
 Metro Chernyshevskaya

ENTRÉE French classics

Entrée is St. Petersburg's favorite French eatery. The restaurant prides itself in serving classic and authentic French dishes like onion soup, duck confit and escargot.



The service is impeccable and the atmosphere charming. There's also a bistro-style bakery in the front selling the best eclairs, cakes and croissants in the city.

PRICE RANGE: (2) G Nikolskaya Ploshchad +7 (812) 572 5201 Metro Sennaya

RUSSKAYA RYUMOCHNAYA NO.1 GATEWAY TO RUSSIAN VODKA

This restaurant offers more than 200 types of Russian vodka together with cuisine from Russia's





imperial era. The astounding selection of vodka brands from around the country has made the establishment something of a museum where local guides tell guests about the culture and traditions of Russian vodka drinking. The rich menu, inspired by merchant feasts, goes well with the hard alcoholic drinks. Roasted suckling pig stuffed with buckwheat and mushrooms, roasted goose stuffed with apples and sour cabbage, smoked starlet, and pancakes with pike caviar look impressive and taste divine.

PRICE RANGE: 🕑

•7 (812) 570 6420 Metro Admiralteiskaya



LA PERLA SEAFOOD RESTAURANT LOCAL FAVORITE

FOR FISH

La Perla is a legendary St. Petersburg institution serving fresh and diverse seafood since 1999. Choose from 10 different types of oysters, seven different types of caviar, or seafood dishes like mussels in Provencal sauce and Creole-style shrimp ceviche. The nauticalthemed interior, with soft music playing in the background, makes for a relaxing atmosphere. Be sure to book in advance.

PRICE RANGE: (2) S4/34 Ulitsa Marata

+7 (812) 764 4413 Metro Vladimirskaya



HARVEST A HAVEN FOR VEGETARIANS

This modern, spacious restaurant is run by popular local chef Dmitry Blinov. It specializes in inventive vegetarian dishes along with fish and seafood. Crab with avocado and kale and cauliflower pie are must-tries. Located in the Dobrolyubov Business Center, it has a main hall on the ground floor that opens to the kitchen and another space on the second floor, both with a warm and clean decor. It's so good, even meat-eaters love it.

PRICE RANGE: (2)) 9 11 Ulitsa Dobrolyubova + 7 (911) 922 2746

GASTRONOMIC JOURNEY FROM PETERSBURG TO LENINGRAD AND BACK



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62 SUVOROVSKY AVE., ST. PETERSBURG +7 (931) 233-16-55, +7 (812) 577-15-48, central restaurant.ru

WINING AND DINING / $\mathbf{29}$

Here's our selection of the best places in St. Petersburg for a coffee during the day or a cocktail late into the night.

HIT PAUSE



812 SOLID COCKTAILS IN A SOLID SETTING

Named after St. Petersburg's area code, this bar is known for its creative cocktails, intimate setting, professional bar attendants and good music. It is conveniently located in the very center of the city close to the Ploshchad Vosstaniya metro station and the popular Belonskogo and Nekrasova bar streets. Perch at the long bar counter or grab a seat in the back.

PRICE RANGE: (P)

11 Ulitsa Zhukovskogo
 +7 (812) 956 8129
 Metro Mayakovskaya

EL COPITAS SECRET MEXICAN BAR

Named among the 50 Best Bars in the World, this half-secret establishment doesn't have a sign, and you need to call to get in. But once



→ guides.themoscowtimes.com

you're there, you'll be treated to authentic Mexican food, signature cocktails based on peyote, tequila and rum, and other special drinks. The bar is run by a team of experienced bar chefs and has a friendly vibe. Keep in mind that it is only open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. **PRICE RANGE:**

♥ 18 Vladimirsky Prospekt +7 (812) 941 7168 Metro Vladimirskaya

ORTHODOX BAR INVENTIVE RUSSIAN COCKTAILS

Orthodox bar is located on the city's most popular foodie street but serves its own unique selection of cocktails based on buckwheat vodka, chamomile liqueur and muscat chacha. The list is complemented by a wide selection of homemade Russian vodka, or moonshine, known as "samogon," as well as Russian wines. Snacks include vegetable and meat chips, small pirozhki pies and unusual chocolates with horseradish. **PRICE RANGE:**

 Q 2 Ulitsa Rubinshteina

 +7 (812) 928 0221

 Metro Vladimirskaya

ST. MARTIN CARIBBEAN FOOD AND RUM

This atmospheric rum bar introduces visitors to the culture of island rum-drinking in a smart but relaxed setting. Order the sample plate to taste the different types of rum and its various traditions. The menu is small but packs a punch with nourishing meat soups, jerked beef and creole chicken.

PRICE RANGE: (2) Q 1 Ulitsa Belinskogo

+7 (812) 325 5550 Metro: Gostiniy Dvor

TIPS & ADVICE

THE BEST STRATEGY TO EXPLORE BARS IN THE CITY IS TO CONCENTRATE ON THE POPULAR "BAR HOPPING STREETS": RUBINSHTEINA, BELINSKOGO, NEKRASOVA AND GOROKHOVAYA. THAT WAY YOU CAN SEE SEVERAL BARS ON THE SAME NIGHT WITHOUT NEEDING TO TRAVEL ACROSS THE CITY EACH TIME.



COFFEE+TEA

ROTONDA LOUNGE BEST AFTERNOON TEA

Located at the historic hotel Astoria across from St. Isaac's Cathedral, the Rotonda lounge offers a tea-drinking ceremony daily between 3 and 6 p.m. Exquisite deserts, including European classics like cream puffs, tartes and cakes, are on offer along with Russian favorites like blini and pirozhki. With a luxurious interior and an excellent view of the square, you won't find a better place for your afternoon tea.

PRICE RANGE: (2))

39 Ulitsa Bolshaya Morskaya
 +7 (812) 494 5757
 Metro Admiralteiskaya

KOMBUCHA BISTRO RETRO CHIC

Kombucha is a cafe unlike any other in the city. Its atmosphere is retro-chic, both because of its beautiful antique furniture and table settings, like fine porcelain cups for espresso. Breakfast is served in the mornings, while during the day, an unusual selection of food, such as Thai, Indian, Hawaiian and Latin American, is on offer. The atmosphere is tropical and relaxed during the day, while DJs and live bands play in the evening and on weekends. The cafe also serves local and imported Kombucha fermented tea drinks.

PRICE RANGE: (2)

G3 Liteiny Prospekt
 +7 (911) 920 7376
 Metro Mayakovskaya

LATTERIA BEST LATTES IN TOWN

The team at Latteria prepares some of the best milk-based coffee drinks in the city, include heavenly flat whites and lattes with added ingredients like chili pepper or caramel. This is a great place to sit and relax, read a book or browse the internet on your laptop. The food on offer includes bagels, muffins and paninis.

PRICE RANGE:

16 Ulitsa Mayakovskogo
 +7 (981) 819 8181
 Metro Mayakovskaya

Taleon Club Taleon Imperial Hotel

MARCH 11 - APRIL 27 LENT MENU

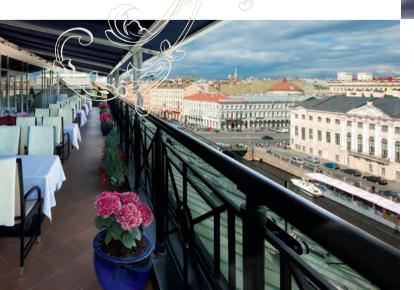
Authors' recipes from Chef Alexander Dregolsky Salads and appetizers of fresh fruits & vegetables Diet hot meals with green vegetables and cereals Fruit desserts inspired by French & Oriental cuisine

APRIL 14 SUMMER SEASON OPENING

Victoria restaurant summer terrace Sunday brunch New seasonal menu from Chef Alexander Dregolsky Enjoy it for 4800 rubles per person

APRIL 28 EASTER BRUNCH

Traditional brunch will be served from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m Musical program The cost is 5200 rubles per person, drinks included



VICTORI

Booking by phone: +7 (812) 3249911 Email: concierge@taleon.ru 15 Nevsky pr., St. Petersburg, 191186 Russia www.taleonimperialhotel.com Nataly Osmann is a social media influencer with 1 million followers on Instagram. As cocreator of the FollowMeTo project, which has quickly become a worldwide movement, she travels the world with her husband, Murad. While she is based in Moscow, she knows about the two capital cities better than anyone, so check out her advice!

NATALY OSMANN

IF YOU HAVE BREAKFAST IN THE CITY, WHERE SHOULD YOU GO?

In Moscow, we like to have breakfast at Bro&N. Geraldine also has one of the best breakfasts in Moscow, located in the very center – on Ostozhenka – but at the same time hidden from the main street. Another of our top breakfast places is Khlebnaya Lavka.

In St. Petersburg, I can't take a trip to the northern capital without visiting my favorite place, Kokoko. The interior, food, service, view from the window – everything is amazing at this restaurant.

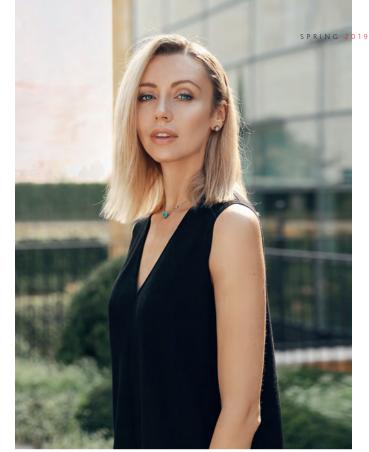
I GET MY COFFEE AT ...

... Coffeemania. Usually it's an Americano, but if I'm in the mood I might drink a cappuccino as well. If I happen to be in Patriki (slang for the Patriarch's Ponds neighborhood), I go to the 42 Coffee Shop on Malaya Bronnaya.

IF YOU GO FOR A WALK WITH FRIENDS, WHERE DO YOU GO?

It definitely would be Patriki! I love the atmosphere of this place, with people moving from place to place or slowly walking their dogs. I love meeting friends at every corner and I love the local restaurants.





YOUR FAVORITE PLACES IN THE CAPITAL?

Our favorite is Novodevichy Convent. It is a place of solitude and tranquility in a crazy metropolis. Also Frunzenskaya Naberezhnaya and Pushkin Bridge. These places are special for us, because our first dates took place there.

IMAGINE A FRIEND CAME TO MOSCOW FOR THE FIRST TIME. WHERE YOU RECOMMEND HIM OR HER TO GO?

First of all is Bolshoi Theater – the most famous stage not only in Moscow, but in all of Russia. Then go visit Park Zaryadye and its floating bridge: The view of the Kremlin and St. Basil's Cathedral from there takes your breath away. And, of course, the museums – Pushkin, Tretyakov Gallery old and new, and the Kremlin museum.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PLACE TO HAVE DINNER WITH YOUR FRIENDS OR LOVED ONES?

Ryba Moya is the most delicious seafood restaurant in Moscow I love this place! I would also go to dinner at Avocado Queen in Patriki or at Gorynych. And for lovers of Georgian cuisine, I would recommend Almaz, the newly opened restaurant at Usachevsky Market.

AS FOR DANCING AND FUN, WHICH BARS DO YOU USUALLY GO TO ON A FRIDAY NIGHT?

Denis Simachev is one place we like to go to. I also recommend Golova, Lucky Izakaya Bar and Mexican Veladora.

WHY DO YOU LOVE MOSCOW?

I love Moscow because I always want to come back. The city is always changing, and every now and then it opens up to you from a new side and makes you fall in love with it all over again.



MOSCOW

- KM20 2 Stoleshnikov per.
- WONDER WANDER 26/1 Ulitsa Malaya Bronnava
- SVMOSCOW 6 Ulitsa Malaya
- Molchanovka
- VINTAGE VOYAGE
 9 Ulitsa Neglinnaya
- AIZEL
- 10/1 Stoleshnikov per.
- VIKA GAZINSKAYA
 2 Ulitsa Petrovka
- | TSUM
- RUBAN
- 5/1 Kamergersky per.

ST. PETERSBURG

BABOCHKA
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FROM NATALY OSMANN





RUSSIAN CUISINE WITH EUROPEAN TOUCH

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ÅZIÅ

ALL TASTES OF ASIA

Belmond Grand Hotel Europe St Petersburg, Nevsky Prospekt – Mikhailovskaya Ulitsa +7 812 329 6200