

WELLESLEY
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION



RUSSIAN PRINCES & TATAR KHANS

MOSCOW & THE GOLDEN RING

ABOARD

M.S. VOLGA DREAM

& *GOLDEN EAGLE* TRANS-SIBERIAN EXPRESS

July 13 to 24, 2011



Dear Wellesley Alumnae and Friends,

Discover ancient Russian cities and architectural treasures seldom visited by Westerners. This special itinerary combines a river cruise on the elegant M.S. *Volga Dream* from Moscow to Kazan, stopping at Golden Ring cities, and an overnight on the famous *Golden Eagle* Trans-Siberian Express.

Joining us will be Nina Tumarkin, Chair and Professor of History at Wellesley College and her husband, Harvey Cox, Hollis Research Professor of Divinity Emeritus at Harvard University, whose latest book is *The Future of Faith*. Professor Tumarkin teaches courses at Wellesley on the history of Medieval, Imperial and Soviet Russia and is also a longtime associate at Harvard's Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies. She and Professor Cox have traveled as lecturers with groups of alumnae/i for almost fifteen years, bringing informed perspectives and an appreciation of local history and culture.

Also traveling with the group are distinguished diplomat and author Jack F. Matlock, Jr., former U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union, and art historian Anne Odom, Curator Emeritus at Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens, who will also address us throughout the journey.

We begin in Moscow, staying at the elegant Ritz-Carlton, overlooking the Kremlin. Highlights of our three days in this exciting city will be a private tour of this fabled fortress when it is closed to the public, and visits to the stellar paintings collections at the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts and both Tretyakov galleries.

Board the awaiting *Volga Dream*, visiting five historic cities: Uglich, with its five-domed Church of the Transfiguration; Yaroslavl, the oldest city on the Volga; Kostroma, "Cradle of the Romanov Dynasty"; Nizhny-Novgorod, birthplace of Maxim Gorky; and Russia's rarely visited "Third Capital," Kazan, with its enormous and eclectic kremlin. Travel back to Moscow on the *Golden Eagle*, spending one night on this storied train.



Never before has it been possible to combine travel on Russia's finest vessel and most famous train, both privately chartered for our exclusive use. We are delighted to offer this extraordinary trip with privileged visits to lesser-known exquisite treasures of architectural, religious and historical importance. I do hope you will be able to join Wellesley on this Russian trip of a lifetime, co-sponsored by members of the Hillwood Museum, The Royal Oak Foundation and alumni from Harvard University.

Sincerely yours,

Susan Challenger '76
Executive Director
Wellesley College Alumnae Association

RUSSIAN PRINCES & TATAR KHANS

MOSCOW & THE GOLDEN RING ABOARD *VOLGA DREAM* & *GOLDEN EAGLE*

JULY 13 TO 24, 2011

NEW YORK

Wednesday, July 13 Depart New York on an overnight flight to Moscow.

MOSCOW

Thursday, July 14 Upon arrival in Moscow transfer to the deluxe Ritz-Carlton, in the historic city center overlooking the red-brick towers and golden cupolas of the Kremlin. After lunch at leisure, a late afternoon walking tour of iconic Red Square will introduce St. Basil's Cathedral, Lenin's Tomb and GUM department store. Gather this evening for a welcome reception and dinner at the hotel.



photo by Hans Ollerman

Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, Moscow.

MOSCOW

Friday, July 15 This morning tour the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, housing a remarkable collection of French Impressionist and Old Master paintings as well as the famous Schliemann gold from Troy. Following a lunch of Russian specialties, the afternoon is unscheduled for individual pursuits. This evening we plan to attend a performance at the famed Bolshoi Theater, pending schedules.

MOSCOW

Saturday, July 16 Enter the Kremlin before public opening hours for a private visit to the Armory Museum, with its collection of tsarist thrones, ceremonial crowns, coaches and gifts of state. Then view the beautifully frescoed 15th-century Assumption and Annunciation Cathedrals. After lunch visit the New Tretyakov Picture Gallery, with works by Malevich, Kandinsky and Chagall. Dinner is at leisure.

MOSCOW | M.S. VOLGA DREAM

Sunday, July 17 Spend the morning at the Old Tretyakov Gallery to see its extraordinary collection ranging from 12th-century icons to 20th-century paintings. Lunch is at leisure before we board the awaiting *Volga Dream*.

UGLICH

Monday, July 18 Enjoy the amenities of our fine ship, onboard lectures and changing landscapes during a leisurely morning cruise. We arrive this afternoon in the Golden Ring city of Uglich, dating from the 10th century. A walking tour includes the Chapel of Dimitry, a vibrant red church topped with gold-studded blue domes built on the site where Ivan the Terrible's son met his death. Also see the five-domed Church of the Transfiguration, noted for its soaring vaulted ceiling and remarkable iconostasis, where we attend a concert of choral music. This evening gather for the captain's welcome reception and dinner.

YAROSLAVL

Tuesday, July 19 The oldest city on the Volga River, Yaroslavl was unharmed during World War II and its many religious buildings dating from the 13th to 17th centuries remain intact. In the Spassky Monastery, see the Transfiguration Cathedral, adorned with murals depicting St. John's apocalyptic visions. After a bell ringing demonstration, continue to the Church of Elijah the Prophet whose interior is richly adorned with frescoes depicting religious scenes as well as the unusual subject of 17th-century Russian domestic life. Reboard the *Volga Dream* for a lively barbecue dinner as we sail toward Kostroma.



photo by Michael Clarke

Fresco at Elijah the Prophet Church, Yaroslavl.



Kul-Sharif Mosque, Kazan.

KOSTROMA

Wednesday, July 20 A highlight of our visit to ancient Kostroma is the Ipatyev Monastery, called the “Cradle of the Romanov Dynasty,” as it was here that the first Romanov was summoned to assume the throne. The ornate iconostasis in its magnificent Trinity Cathedral has icons dating to 1652.

NIZHNY-NOVGOROD

Thursday, July 21 After lunch, step ashore in Nizhny, birthplace of writer Maxim Gorky. See the historic kremlin, a stronghold against the invading Tatars of Kazan, and walk through the city’s red-brick streets that are often filled with artists and entertainers. Of special interest is the 17th-century Stroganoff Church of the Birth of the Virgin Mary, a remarkable example of Russian baroque. A folkloric performance precedes dinner onboard.

KAZAN

Friday, July 22 Arrive this morning in Russia’s “Third Capital,” Kazan. Founded in the 11th century, it is one of Russia’s oldest cultural, scientific and trading centers. An architectural tour will introduce us to the enormous and eclectic kremlin, including the Kul-Sharif Mosque, one of the largest in Europe; and the 16th-century Annunciation Cathedral. A highlight will be tea with faculty and students of Kazan University and a concert by a Tatar folkloric group. Back onboard, gather for a festive farewell dinner.

KAZAN | GOLDEN EAGLE

Saturday, July 23 Drive to a forest outside Kazan to discover Raifa Monastery, an Orthodox spiritual center that has been a place of pilgrimage since the 17th century. Set on a peaceful lake, it is



Raifa Monastery.

one of the most beautiful sites in the Tartar republic. Its icon of Our Lady of Georgia is celebrated for its healing powers. Following an independent lunch and free time, board the deluxe *Golden Eagle* Trans-Siberian Express, chartered for our exclusive use, for the return trip to Moscow. This evening celebrate a memorable journey with a cocktail reception followed by a gourmet dinner of Russian specialties aboard this iconic train.

MOSCOW | U.S.A.

Sunday, July 24 Arrive in Moscow’s railway station this morning and transfer directly to the airport for the flight home. ■



Catherine's Palace.

OPTIONAL PRELUDE ST. PETERSBURG

July 10 to 14, 2011

Spend three nights in vibrant St. Petersburg, founded by decree of Peter the Great in 1703. Take a special before-hours tour of the incomparable Hermitage, where five adjacent palaces showcase nearly all schools of Western art. Visit Yusupov Palace, where in 1916, the notorious monk Gregory Rasputin was assassinated, or travel outside the city to Peterhof, often called the “Versailles of Russia.” On an excursion to Tsarskoye Selo, enter Catherine’s Palace on a day when it is closed to the public. View the exquisitely restored Amber Room and stroll the formal gardens. Continue to Pavlovsk Palace, whose beautiful appointments include furniture, china and sculpture. In the evening, attend a White Nights Festival performance at the famed Mariinsky Theater. See the mosaics in the Church of Our Savior on the Spilled Blood and the opulent golden-domed St. Isaac’s Cathedral. Accommodations are at the elegant Taleon Imperial Hotel. ■

LAND | CRUISE | RAIL RATES (Per Person, Double Occupancy)

Cabins	Decks	Rates
101 to 108	Cabin Deck	\$6,995
Standard Cabin. Twin beds. Single supplement of \$2,500.		
201 to 210	Main Deck	\$7,995
Superior Cabin. Twin beds. Single supplement of \$3,500.		
301 to 315 & 317 to 324	Promenade Deck	\$8,995
Deluxe Cabin. Double bed. Single supplement of \$4,000.		
406 to 409, 411 & 412	Sun Deck	\$9,995
Superior Stateroom. Twin beds. Single supplement of \$5,000.		
316 & 405	Promenade & Sun Decks	\$11,495
Junior Suite. Double bed.		
402 to 404	Sun Deck	\$12,995
Superior Junior Suite. Double bed.		
300	Promenade Deck	\$13,995
Owner's Suite. Double bed.		
Special offer for single travelers.		
325, 326 & 410	Various Decks	\$5,995
Standard Single Cabins.		

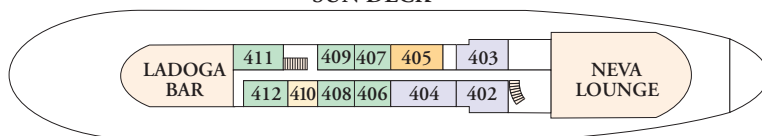
Rates Include

- Three nights accommodations at the deluxe Ritz-Carlton, Moscow
- Six nights cabin accommodations aboard M.S. *Volga Dream*
- One night cabin accommodations aboard the deluxe *Golden Eagle* Trans-Siberian Express from Kazan to Moscow
- All meals during the cruise. Dinner and breakfast aboard *Golden Eagle*. On land portion: buffet breakfast daily, two lunches and one dinner. Complimentary wine with lunches and dinners on cruise and at welcome dinner in Moscow. Open bar on *Golden Eagle*
- Evening performance at the Bolshoi Theater, Moscow, pending final schedules
- Enrichment program of lectures and special events
- Escorted sightseeing and entrance fees for visits
- Airport / hotel / pier / train group transfers and portage
- Gratuities to guides, drivers and staff on *Golden Eagle*
- Taxes; port and service charges

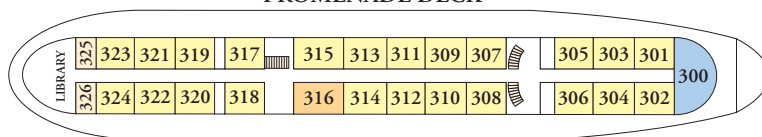
Not Included in Rates International airfare; passport and visa fees; customary shipboard gratuities; alcoholic beverages other than as specified above; personal items and expenses; airport transfers for those not on group flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; optional prelude in St. Petersburg; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

M.S. VOLGA DREAM

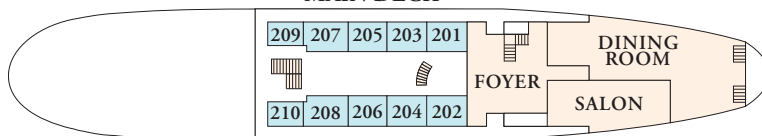
SUN DECK



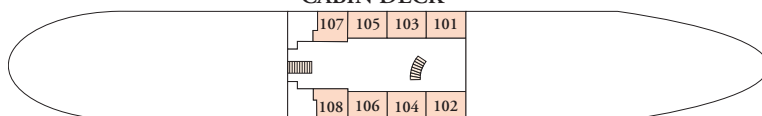
PROMENADE DECK



MAIN DECK



CABIN DECK



Please note: There is no elevator aboard M.S. *Volga Dream*.



Superior cabin (left) and owner's suite (right) on M.S. *Volga Dream*.

ST. PETERSBURG PRELUDE \$2,395 per person. Single supplement \$450. Includes three nights hotel accommodations at Taleon Imperial Hotel. Breakfast daily, two lunches and one dinner. Sightseeing as noted. Evening performance at Mariinsky Theater. Single supplement includes a double room for single use at Taleon Imperial Hotel.

WELLESLEY COLLEGE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION | RESERVATION APPLICATION

MOSCOW & THE GOLDEN RING ABOARD VOLGA DREAM & GOLDEN EAGLE | JULY 13 TO 24, 2011

To reserve a place, please complete and return this form with your deposit of \$2,500 per person (of which \$350 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Academic Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

NAME IN FULL AS ON PASSPORT

NAME IN FULL AS ON PASSPORT

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

TELEPHONE (HOME)

(BUSINESS)

FAX

E-MAIL

Accommodations

M.S. *Volga Dream* Cabin Preference 1. _____ 2. _____

On-Shore Hotel Room Preference ☐ Double ☐ Twin ☐ Single

I wish to share a room/cabin with _____

Optional Prelude in St. Petersburg

☐ I/We wish to join the optional prelude in St. Petersburg (\$2,395 per person, single supplement of \$450).

Form of Payment

☐ Enclosed is my check (payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*).

☐ Credit card (for deposit only; final payment must be made by check).

NAME AS ON CREDIT CARD

3- OR 4-DIGIT SECURITY CODE

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

Each participant must sign below. I/We confirm that I/we have read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this program. I/We agree to full payment by check 120 days prior to departure.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

DATE

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

DATE

For more information, please contact Susan Challenger, Executive Director, Wellesley College Alumnae Association, at (781) 283-2335 or by e-mail at schallen@wellesley.edu



Dining room of M.S. Volga Dream.

The M.S. Volga Dream

Cruise Russia's historic waterways in comfort and style aboard the deluxe, 109-passenger M.S. *Volga Dream*, celebrated for her elegant appointments, meticulous design and impeccable service. All staterooms and suites are outside and feature a marble-accented private bathroom, air conditioning, telephone, satellite television and radio, safe and plush robes. Continental cuisine is served along with Russian specialties, and complimentary wine is offered at meals. The inviting lounge, decorated with paintings by young Russian artists, offers a well-stocked bar and panoramic windows, and the library features internet access. The full-length Sun Deck with teak planking and deck chairs recreates the ambiance of an ocean-going yacht and is a lovely setting for deck lunches and barbecues. Other amenities include a boutique, hair salon, fitness room, massage and sauna. A doctor accompanies the voyage. ■



Bar car of Golden Eagle Trans-Siberian Express.

The Golden Eagle Trans-Siberian Express

Journey overnight in luxury through the Russian countryside from Kazan to Moscow aboard the privately chartered *Golden Eagle* Trans-Siberian Express. Sleeping cars feature private en-suite bathrooms and individually controlled air conditioning. Dine on traditional Russian specialties and savor fine wines in the beautifully appointed restaurant car. Relax and chat with friends in the opulent bar car, where an open bar allows you to sample a variety of vodkas and a pianist plays for your listening pleasure. ■

TERMS & CONDITIONS

AIRFARE Academic Arrangements Abroad (AAA) will be pleased to assist with air travel arrangements. A specially negotiated APEX Economy Class non-refundable group airfare will be offered. Business Class will be quoted on an individual basis. A fee of \$75 per person will be charged for any reservations other than the group flight schedule; private transfers can be arranged at a supplemental cost. To redeem your frequent flyer mileage, please contact the airline directly. Please note that AAA can only assist in rebooking flights on those air reservations booked directly by AAA.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE A deposit of \$2,500 per person, payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*, of which \$350 is non-refundable for administrative fees, is required with the reservation application. Final payment, by check only, must be received 120 days prior to departure.

HEALTH All participants must be in good health. This program involves extensive walking over uneven surfaces, climbing stairs at monuments and other locations not handicapped accessible, and climbing in and out of various conveyances. Any condition that may require assistance or special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation. PLEASE NOTE: *Volga Dream* does not have an elevator.

INSURANCE TRIP CANCELLATION / EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION / BAGGAGE / ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE PROTECTION IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. CANCELLATION PENALTIES ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED. An insurance application will be sent by Wellesley College Alumnae Association (WCAA) upon receipt of reservation and deposit, although you may select any insurer of your choice.

CHANGES IN ITINERARY & COSTS The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of WCAA and AAA. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfares and currency exchange rates in effect at time of brochure printing and are subject to change without notice. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE The participation of WCAA is limited to educational sponsorship of the program described in this brochure (The Program). AAA acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to transportation, accommodations and all other services, relating to The Program. AAA, WCAA and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity that may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any aircraft, ship, train, bus or other carrier, or through neglect or default of any subcontractor or other third party, which may be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to the participants of The Program. The passage ticket issued by the carrier is the sole contract between the participant and the carrier. Nor will AAA or WCAA and/or their agents be responsible for loss, injury, damages or expenses to persons or property, due to illness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature or other such causes in connection with The Program or anything beyond their reasonable control. AAA is not responsible for transportation or other program delays and changes, nor additional expenses or loss of time that may be incurred. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the participants, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary at any time, without notice to the participants, such alterations will be made without penalty to AAA or WCAA. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the participants. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the participant at all times. WCAA and AAA reserve the right to accept or decline any person as a participant at any time, or to require any participant to withdraw from The Program at their own expense when such an action is determined by AAA or WCAA to be in the best interest of the participant's health and safety, or the general welfare of the other participants.

CANCELLATION POLICY AAA must strictly adhere to its cancellation policy to offset costs incurred prior to the commencement of The Program, which may include but are not limited to: advance payments to land operators; ship charters; communication expenses; development / promotional expenses and the loss of time that might have permitted resale of reserved space. All cancellations must be made in writing to the offices of AAA and are subject to a \$350 non-refundable administrative fee. All refunds are limited to amounts actually received by AAA and are the sole responsibility of AAA; WCAA shall have no liability for refunds. At the time AAA receives written notification of cancellation, the following cancellation charges will apply: cancellations received between 120 and 91 days prior to departure, 20 percent of the program cost per person; those received between 90 and 61 days before departure, 50 percent of the program cost per person; no refunds will be given for cancellations received within 60 days of departure. No refunds are given for cancellation on or after the day of departure, or for unused portions of the tour, for any reason. Air cancellation charges, if any, will be assessed in accordance with airline regulations. All group fare tickets must be issued no less than 30 days prior to departure. NOTE: Neither AAA nor WCAA shall be liable for any airline cancellation penalties incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket. In the case of a cancellation due to shortage of participants, AAA will attempt to notify all participants at least 45 days prior to departure. However, AAA reserves the right to cancel The Program prior to departure for any reason and, in such case, reimbursement of refundable costs of the trip by AAA shall constitute full settlement with the participant. In the unlikely event that a dispute arises between a participant and AAA or WCAA, the following conditions will apply: (a) the dispute will be settled by binding arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association in New York, NY; (b) the dispute will be governed by New York Law; (c) the maximum amount of recovery to which a participant shall be entitled under any and all circumstances will be the sum of all monies actually received from the participant by AAA. The participant agrees that this is a fair and reasonable limitation on the damages, of any sort whatsoever, that a participant may suffer. Upon payment of the deposit to AAA, the participant agrees to be bound by the above terms and conditions.

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Academic Arrangements Abroad

On the front cover: Cathedral of the Annunciation, Kazan. On the back cover: The Golden Eagle Trans-Siberian Express, photo by Jim Friedlander (top) and M.S. Volga Dream (bottom).



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MOSCOW & THE GOLDEN RING
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M.S. *VOLGA DREAM*
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JULY 13 TO 24, 2011

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ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION



WELLESLEY COLLEGE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
106 CENTRAL STREET
WELLESLEY, MA 02481-8203

