# **THOMAS P. GOHAGAN & COMPANY**

# WATERWAYS OF RUSSIA

Aboard the exclusively chartered deluxe m.s. Volga Dream Russia

#### St. Petersburg to Moscow

August 2 to 12, 2013 From \$4095 (approximately) plus air

## **150-175 WORD COPY**

Join us for nine nights aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe M.S. VOLGA DREAM, the premier ship cruising Russia's waterways and a capacity of 109 passengers. This carefully crafted itinerary highlights Russia's two great cultural capitals. Spend two nights aboard ship in St. Petersburg, czar Peter the Great's "window on the West," featuring a guided tour of the State Hermitage Museum. And, spend one night aboard ship in the fabled city of Moscow, the political and commercial capital of the world's largest country, and see the world's largest collection of Fabergé eggs. Cruise through the heartland of Mother Russia along scenic rivers, lakes and canals to the legendary open-air museum of Kizhi Island, the 14<sup>th</sup>-century monastery of Goritsy, medieval Yaroslavl and tenth-century Uglich, rustic remnants of Old Russia. This unique and always popular program appeals to the first-time visitor to Russia and the return visitor curious to see the astounding changes that have taken place in Russia's two largest and most important cities. A two-night Moscow Post-Cruise Option is offered.

(169 words)

### **100 WORD COPY**

Join us for nine nights aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe M.S. VOLGA DREAM, the premier ship cruising Russia's waterways and a capacity of 109 passengers. This carefully crafted itinerary highlights Russia's two great cultural capitals—St. Petersburg, czar Peter the Great's "window on the West," featuring a guided tour of the State Hermitage Museum, and the fabled city of Moscow, political and commercial capital of the world's largest country. Cruise to the legendary open-air museum of Kizhi Island, the 14<sup>th</sup>-century monastery of Goritsy, medieval Yaroslavl and tenth-century Uglich, rustic remnants of Old Russia. Two-night Moscow Post-Cruise Option. *(97 words)* 

# **50 WORD COPY**

Cruise with us for nine nights aboard the exclusively chartered, deluxe M.S. VOLGA DREAM, the premier ship cruising Russia's waterways. Enjoy time in St. Petersburg and Moscow and visit the legendary open-air museum of Kizhi Island, the 14<sup>th</sup>-century monastery of Goritsy, medieval Yaroslavl and tenth-century Uglich, rustic remnants of Old Russia. Optional two-night Moscow Post-Cruise.

(56 words)

### **ITINERARY**

- Day Destination
- 1 Depart from the U.S. or Canada
- 2 St. Petersburg, Russia/Embark M.S. VOLGA DREAM
- 3 St. Petersburg
- 4 St. Petersburg
- 5 Mandrogi/Cruising
- 6 Kizhi Island
- 7 Goritsy
- 8 Yaroslavl
- 9 Uglich
- 10 Moscow
- 11 Moscow/Disembark M.S. VOLGA DREAM/Return to the U.S. or Canada

## **Activity Level**

Moderately Active

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Cruise for nine nights aboard the deluxe M.S. VOLGA DREAM, the best vessel to cruise the waterways of Russia.
- Discover the timeless pageant that is Russia along the scenic rivers, lakes and canals that link its two largest and most important cities.
- Enjoy ample time in St. Petersburg, a UNESCO World Heritage site, including St. Isaac's Cathedral, the Peter and Paul Fortress, and a guided tour of the State Hermitage Museum.
- Explore Moscow's UNESCO World Heritage sites, including Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral and the State Armory Museum in the Kremlin, home of the world's largest collection of Fabergé eggs.
- Travel through the Russian heartland, a countryside seemingly untouched by the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and visit traditional villages and onion-domed churches in Yaroslavl and Kizhi Island, both UNESCO World Heritage sites, as well as Uglich and Goritsy.
- Experience traditional Russian culture through a traditional Russian welcome ceremony, vodka tasting and a piano concert featuring the music of Tchaikovsky.
- Enjoy complimentary house wine, beer and soft drinks served with lunches and dinners on board the M.S. VOLGA DREAM.
- Extend your stay in Russia with the exclusive two-night Post-Cruise Option in Moscow with deluxe hotel accommodations.

### M.S. VOLGA DREAM

Without a doubt the most deluxe river ship cruising the waterways of Russia, the M.S. VOLGA DREAM sets the standard. With its meticulous design, elegant appointments and richly deserved reputation for impeccable service, the M.S. VOLGA DREAM affords guests a memorable experience.

All Cabins and Suites are outside and feature a wood- and marble-accented private bathroom, one queen bed or two twin beds, individual climate control, telephone, satellite television, safe, radio and plush robes. Most Cabins have a large picture window.

Breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner are served in single, unassigned seatings in the dining room. Skilled chefs specialize in the preparation of savory continental and local cuisine. Complimentary house wine, beer and soft drinks accompany lunch and dinner.

The inviting lounge offers a well-stocked bar and panoramic windows, and the library features a selection of books and games and Internet access. Other shipboard amenities include a boutique, hair salon, fitness room and sauna. The full-length Sun Deck with teak planking and deck chairs recreates the ambiance of an oceangoing yacht.

### **INCLUDED FEATURES**

### ON BOARD THE EXCLUSIVELY CHARTERED M.S. VOLGA DREAM

- Nine-night cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow, with port calls at Mandrogi, Kizhi Island, Goritsy, Yaroslavl and Uglich.
- Outside accommodations with private bathroom facilities and air conditioning.
- ◆ All meals—breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner (including Russian specialties).
- Complimentary house wine, beer and soft drinks served with lunch and dinner. Coffee and tea served with all meals.
- Traditional Russian welcome ceremony.
- Captain's Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Festive Russian vodka tasting.
- Evening entertainment including a piano concert featuring Tchaikovsky music.
- A Russian dinner featuring traditional culinary specialties.
- Tour of **St. Petersburg**, a UNESCO World Heritage site, featuring St. Isaac's Cathedral and the Peter and Paul Fortress.
- Specially reserved admittance and tour of the **State Hermitage Museum** in St. Petersburg.
- Cruise along the Volga River, Lake Rybinskoye, the Sheksna River, Lake Beloye, Lake Onega, the Svir River, Lake Ladoga and the Neva River.
- Visit to the open-air museum of Kizhi Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Excursion to **Goritsy's** Kirillov-Belozersky Monastery.
- Tour of **Yaroslavl**, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Walking tour of **Uglich**, including a visit to the Church of St. Dimitri on the Blood.
- Tour of Moscow, highlighted by the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Red Square and St. Basil's Cathedral.
- Excursion to the **State Armory Museum** in the **Kremlin**, a UNESCO World Heritage site and home of the world's largest collection of Fabergé eggs and other imperial treasures.

#### **ENHANCED TRAVEL SERVICES**

- All transfers and luggage handling abroad for all participants who have purchased their international air tickets through Gohagan & Company and whose arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- All excursions and visits, as outlined in the Included Features, led by experienced, English-speaking local guides.
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- Experienced Travel Director to accompany you throughout the travel program.
- Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- Travel document wallet, name badge and pre-departure information.

### **MOSCOW POST-CRUISE OPTION**

Further explore the heart and soul of Mother Russia on this two-night extension in Moscow. Tour the magnificent Tretyakov Gallery, enjoy a cultural performance and visit the tranquil grounds of the UNESCO World Heritage site of Novodevichy ("New Maidens") Convent, including a stroll through its cemetery, the most prestigious in Moscow. Accommodations are included in the deluxe MARRIOTT ROYAL AURORA HOTEL, ideally located in the city center.

*This Post-Cruise Option is available at additional cost, and details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*