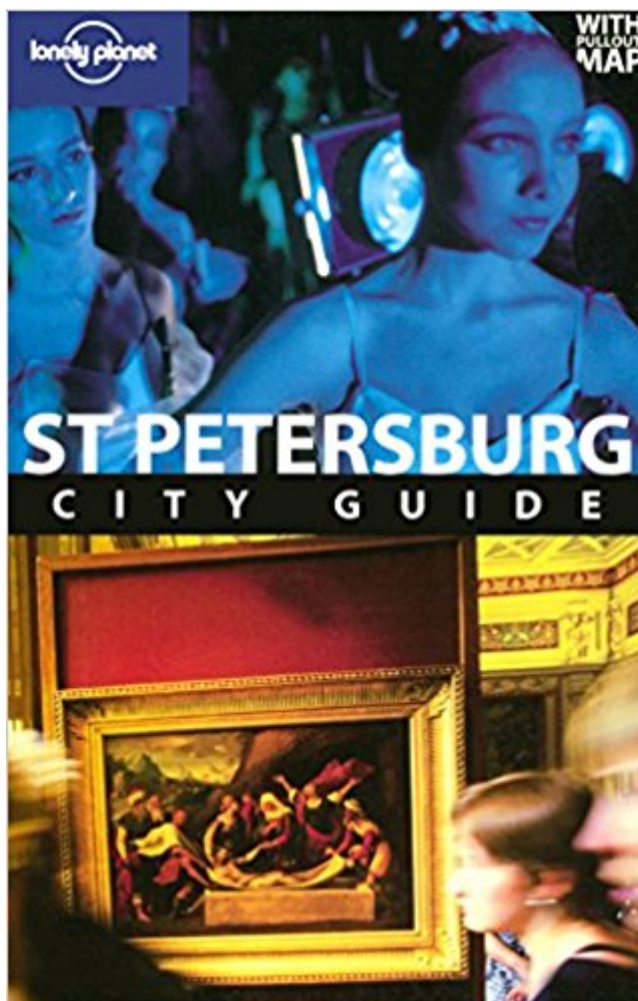


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# Lonely Planet St Petersburg (City Guide)



## Synopsis

Discover St Petersburg  
Unearth the connection between an Italian architect and a famous beef dish at the Stroganov Palace  
Plug into St Petersburg's avant-garde art and music scene in a former squat  
Beat a total stranger with birch branches at the local banya  
Join the newlyweds for champagne and dancing in the shadow of the Bronze Horseman  
In This Guide:  
One passionate author with over twenty years' experience of St Petersburg  
Full-color coverage of the unparalleled Hermitage museum  
Meet the locals: a photographer/journalist/bar owner, an artist and a violinist show you their town  
Content updated daily - visit [lonelyplanet.com](http://lonelyplanet.com) for up-to-the-minute reviews, updates and traveler insights

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

â |Lonely Planet, the intrepid traveler's bible...' --Los Angeles Times, April 2005

Who We Are  
At Lonely Planet, we see our job as inspiring and enabling travelers to connect with the world for their own benefit and for the benefit of the world at large. What We Do  
\* We offer travelers the world's richest travel advice, informed by the collective wisdom of over 350 Lonely Planet authors living in 37 countries and fluent in 70 languages.  
\* We are relentless in finding the special, the unique and the different for travellers wherever they are.  
\* We update our guidebooks by visiting thousands of places in person to get the details right and tell it as it is.  
\* We always offer the trusted filter for those who are curious, open minded and independent.  
\* We challenge our growing

community of travelers; leading debate and discussion about travel and the world.\* We tell it like it is without fear or favor in service of the travelers; not clouded by any other motive. What We Believe We believe that travel leads to a deeper cultural understanding and compassion and therefore a better world.

Fun

As the founder of a company devoted to enriching cultural and business travel to Russia, we are always looking for a good, general guidebook for clients. "Lonely Planet St. Petersburg " details several sights and museums not covered in many other guidebooks, such as the GUVI Museum and a guide to the little-visited southern St. Petersburg (which was to have been the new city center after the Siege of Leningrad). The history and art sections are also strong for a guide book. The entertainment, bar, restaurant and hotel suggestions are comprehensive (as far as quantity, quality and general pricing range, although the pricing itself is not accurate). One annoyance is that there are no Cyrillic displays of a sight's name (or even transliterations into Latin script), which means that you are likely to miss a sign right in front of you for, for instance, the Toy Museum. Note, however, that we always tell clients and other visitors to Russia that you should get the most current guidebook, as attractions, hotels, restaurants and transportation options do often change--AND THEN VERIFY THE INFORMATION! All in all, we recommend "Lonely Planet St. Petersburg " as a good guidebook to bring if you are staying more than a few days, or if you want comprehensive entertainment and restaurant listings before departing for your journey of Discovering Russia's second city, St. Petersburg. Marc David Miller, Discovering Russia, New York

I spent 6 weeks in St. Petersburg this summer, and I never left the flat without this book. It's incredibly useful. If you are going to St. Petersburg, you need it. Trust me.

This is the guide to use for Moscow. The beautifully illustrated contents include self guided tours that are so easy to follow you will feel like you were born there. BUY IT!!

the book is really informative. the only downfall is the russian pronunciation. as i am a russian language major, i can personally say there is definitely a better way to write out a lot of the words.

Lonely Planet does a good job but this is the 2002 edition. go for the new edition

I visited the wonderful city of St Petersburg in 1996, and I treated Nick Selby's first edition of this book as my most valuable possession while I was there. As an independent traveller with no guide other than the Lonely Planet, I relied very heavily on this little gem of a book, and it never let me down. From purchasing a train ticket in Finland (the book describes the process of purchasing your ticket in Helsinki in absolute detail), to finding somewhere to stay (the St Petersburg hostel), to navigating the streets (all signposted in Cyrillic), to following in the footsteps of great authors (like my personal favourite, Dostoevsky) this book was my friend and saviour. As an English-only speaker I found St Petersburg to be an intimidating city (very few people speak English, and the Cyrillic script adds several degrees of difficulty to written communication), so I honestly don't think I could have attempted, let alone survived, independent travel in this fabulous city without this book.

When one goes to Europe with a European guidebook from Lonely Planet, one can expect perhaps 95% accuracy regarding the information within the book. The St. Petersburg guide is probably closer to 80%. That, however, is not the fault of the authors. Russian cities have been evolving rapidly since the break up of the USSR. Cool bars close. Hostels shut down or move. Museum schedules change. All of these things occur at a far faster rate than in Western or even Eastern Europe. That being said, the guide was, overall, quite good. I particularly enjoyed the Walking Tours within and the map of the Winter Palace, which was invaluable.

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