

# *Study in Russia*

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St. Petersburg, Russia is a relatively new city, founded in 1703. When it was nine years old it became the capital of Russia and retained this status till 1918. Over almost 300 years of its history St. Petersburg accumulated all the grandeur of the Russian Imperial Court and became one of the largest centres of culture, science and industry. Created by Peter the Great as a sea port on the Baltic it was essentially "a window to the West" for Russia, combining the best of the West and the East.

St. Petersburg has a beautiful city centre, virtually untouched by the Soviet years. Since the collapse of communism, the city has been rejuvenated. You can wander round the shops of the central street, Nevsky Prospekt and when you are tired, call in at one of the numerous cafes and restaurants that now flourish on every corner. In the evening you can go to a ballet or opera at the world famous Mariinsky Theatre (or the Kirov, as it used to be called), or you can enjoy a concert in the superb concert hall of the St Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra. There are numerous clubs, disco and bars to suit all tastes. You will not be bored in St. Petersburg.

## **COURSES**

Essex Russian Services can arrange individual tuition at the **Benedict School** at any time of the year. They are also able to offer specialist courses for groups of students at any level

### **The Benedict School**

The Benedict School has been arranging language courses in St Petersburg ever since the break-up of the Soviet Union. They currently arrange courses for many students of Russian at British universities on their year abroad, as well as courses in the summer vacation. They have recently won an award for the quality of their teaching. All of their teachers are fully qualified and have many years experience of teaching Russian as a foreign language at university or equivalent level. Each year one of their teachers is seconded to teach Russian at a university in Great Britain.

You will have your own teacher, who will design a course to suit your own needs. The Benedict School is totally flexible and will arrange courses when you wish for as many or as few classes per week as you wish. All we ask is that you book your course at least six weeks in advance to allow time for you to obtain a visa.

The Benedict School will arrange homestay accommodation. You will have a room of your own but will share the facilities of the flat with the family. Russian flats tend to be smaller than English ones and the standard is in general lower than in UK. The Benedict School will try to find accommodation near to the centre but this is not always possible. The Benedict School will be made

aware of any special requirements and choose the families accordingly. You may be a smoker/non-smoker, love or hate children or pets or you may have dietary requirements.