

Tentative Itinerary, 2009 MBA Study Trip to Russia

- Oct 13 Tuesday Depart for Russia. If you are leaving from Gainesville, a courtesy bus will take you to the airport in Orlando where you will board Delta for your flights to Atlanta and onward to Moscow.
- Lunch on your own in the Atlanta airport.
- Oct 14 Wednesday Arrive in Moscow. After clearing immigration and customs, a bus will take the group to the Cosmos Hotel. Have lunch (on your own) at the Cosmos Hotel and then check into your room.
- Optional: late afternoon trek via metro to Red Square (Kitay Gorod metro stop) and the area around the Kremlin for those who want to see how to use the metro and how to get back to the hotel.
- Evening and dinner on your own
- Oct 15 Thursday Breakfast is included at the sumptuous buffet of the Cosmos Hotel.
- Check out of the Cosmos Hotel, travel by bus to the Kursky Railway Station, and board the day train to Nizhny Novgorod.
- Upon arrival in Nizhny Novgorod, a bus will take us to the Ylki-Palki Russian “theme” restaurant in the Chocolate Shopping Center. Below the restaurant is a grocery and beverage store at which you can buy some supplies for your room if you are so inclined.
- After dinner, we will continue the bus trip (5 minutes) to the LUNN dormitory/hotel and check into your rooms.
- Oct 16 Friday Orientation at LUNN. Listen to an overview of Russian-American contacts and experiences by Margarita Krasilnikova, Director of the American Center. You will also meet your Russian cultural hosts and will have an opportunity to arrange to meet them later if you desire.
- Lunch at the LUNN Cafeteria
- Afternoon lecture by Kendrick White, CEO of Marchmont Capital Partners. Kendrick is an American who has been in Russia since 1991. He will discuss doing business in Russia from an American perspective.
- Evening and dinner on your own.
- Oct 17 Saturday Lectures by: Nelly Boryshneva (Russian culture) and Professor Rykhtick (Post-Soviet politics and economics).

Meet with the Russian students with whom you are working on the assigned joint project.

Lunch on your own.

Afternoon and evening - free time with dinner on your own.

Note: It is possible that we will be able to arrange an optional cultural program this evening (either ballet or opera) for those who might be interested.

Oct 18 Sunday Optional Walking Tour of Nizhny Novgorod.

Lunch and dinner on your own and free the rest of the day.

Oct 19 Monday Morning company visit.

Lunch on your own.

Afternoon company visit.

Oct 20 Tuesday Full Day Bus trip to Semonov, a small town near Nizhny Novgorod to visit the Khokhloma Factory and speak with management about international marketing and exporting.

Dinner on your own once we get back to Nizhny Novgorod.

Oct 21 Wednesday Morning company visit.

Lunch on your own.

Afternoon company visit.

The bus will take us back to the dorm where we will finish packing our bags. After loading the bags in the bus, we will go to a local restaurant for our Final Banquet in Nizhny Novgorod.

The bus will then take us to the Nizhny Novgorod Railway Station where we will board our overnight train to Moscow.

Oct 22 Thursday Early arrival at the Kursky Railway Station in Moscow and transfer by bus to the Cosmos Hotel. The breakfast buffet restaurant will be open by the time we arrive, although it will be too early to check into the hotel.

Today we will visit two companies and have a lecture to complete the academic part of the study trip. The companies are:

Mosfilm, the largest movie production company in Russia, where we will tour the facility and meet with the marketing and distribution department.

Ochakovo Brewing Company, where we will meet with the top specialists of the marketing department.

The lecture at the hotel will be by Mr. Pavel Palazschenko, English interpreter for Mikhail Gorbachev and his Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze during the last years of the Soviet Union, best-selling author, and consultant to the Gorbachev Foundation.

Lunch and dinner on your own

Oct 23 Friday

Moscow Highlights Tour - We will use the metro to go to the Kitay Gorod metro station. We will walk across Red Square, gaze at St. Basil's Cathedral, and then walk through the Alexander Gardens, past the eternal flame commemorating the great Russian battles of the Second World War. We will enter the Kremlin and visit the Armory and the most important Cathedral where coronations of the Tsars were held, and see the usual "tourist photo-op" sites.

Lunch on your own

Optional: For those who would like to see a bit more of Moscow's interesting and important sites, we will take the metro to the Cathedral of Christ the Savior and have a guided tour of this monumental structure. Then we will walk to the Park of the Fallen Idols and have a guided tour of the collection of statues of Soviet leaders that were taken down from their pedestals in the early 1990s after the fall of the Soviet Union and transferred to this park. We will also view the monumental "Peter Columbus" statue.

The rest of the afternoon and evening are free. Dinner on your own.

Oct 24 Saturday

After breakfast we will check out of the Cosmos Hotel and board our bus to go to the airport.

Check in with Delta for our flight back to the U.S.

For those returning to Gainesville, a courtesy bus will meet us in Orlando and take us back to Gainesville.