



**International Travel Solutions**  
Pty Ltd

## *Discover enchanting story of Russian Lace*

This is a rare opportunity to join fully escorted tour with

*Win Lambert*

Bobbin lacemaker with Russian travel experience.

Travel to Russia to meet passionate lacemakers, visit museums and explore history, traditions, culture & food of the great country

**Departure from Helsinki 7th May 2014**

Cost €3500.00 p.person twin share (min group 6)

Single supplement €730.00

For itinerary and cost please contact:

**Victoria Steiner** on +61 3 9533 0766

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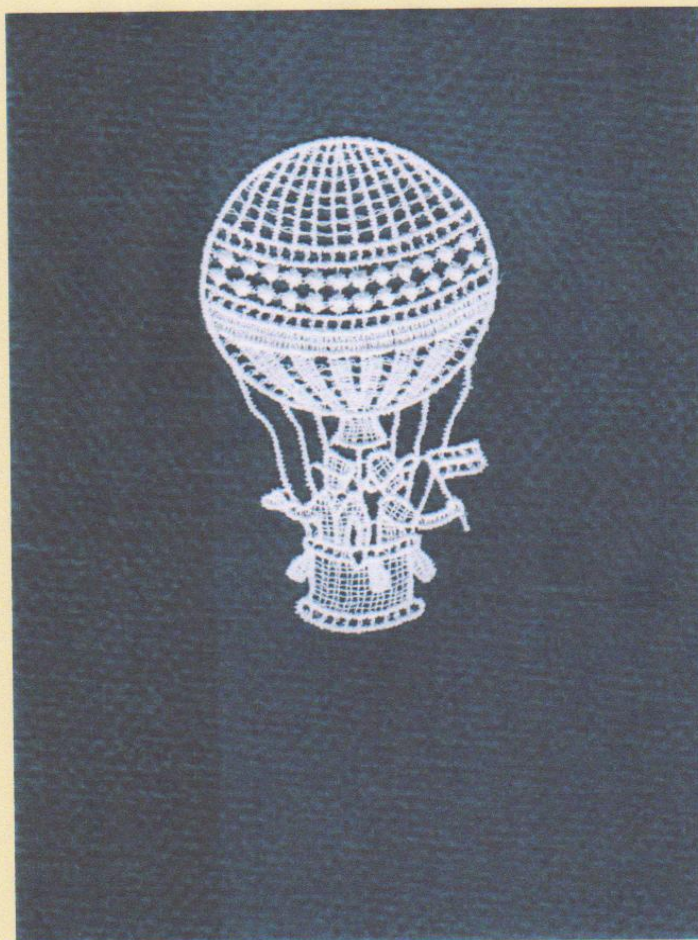






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*The Enchanting Story of Russian Lace*



*And the journey begins...*

For further information and registration interest please contact:  
**Victoria Steiner** on +613 9533 0766 | [travelsolutions@bigpond.com](mailto:travelsolutions@bigpond.com)  
162 Hawthorn Road, North Caulfield, Melbourne, Australia  
or **Win Lambert** on: [win@seattleservices.com.au](mailto:win@seattleservices.com.au)

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**Join me, Win Lambert – your tour leader, on a journey of discovery with a fascinating tour.**

Share my passion for bobbin lacing and enthusiasm for the incredible story of Russian lace throughout the centuries. We will meet with Russian lace-makers, visit museums and factories.



**Tour and travel highlights include:**

- Kadriorg museum of Tallinn;
- Ethnographic museum and Hermitage in St. Petersburg;
- Vologda, where history of lace goes back to XIV century;
- Meet with the best lace-makers;
- Dymkovskaya Igrushka;
- Balakhna Lace museum;
- Explore Red Square in Moscow, Armoury Museum, famous Metro and Arbat Street;
- Visit Yelets and meet Mr. Yevgeny Krikunov – private collector and great admirer of Yelets Lace.

This tour is priced to show incredible value. All tours will be accompanied by knowledgeable English speaking guides.

### **Day 1: Wednesday 7th May 2014 – Helsinki Finland**

Arrive Helsinki and make your own way to your hotel “Sokos Presidentti”

You will have time to rest and relax.

Visit a traditional, local bobbin lace group in the evening.

### **Day 2: Thursday 8th May 2014 – Helsinki – Tallinn – Helsinki**

A trip to Tallinn is nothing without a visit to the magnificent northern Baroque Kadriorg Palace museum. Peter The Great built this museum for his wife, Catherine I, in 1718. The museum boasts numerous paintings by Western and Russian artists from the 16th through to the 20th century as well as impressive sculptures and other works. Amongst these are the delicate bobbin lace displays.

You will be met by English speaking guide at the harbour. Transfer to Kadriorg museum.

Tour of the museum with English speaking guide.

03:00pm – transfer to the harbour in Tallinn to take a return trip to Helsinki.

Return to Hotel in Helsinki

### **Day 3: Friday 9th May 2014 – Helsinki – St. Petersburg**

After the breakfast check out from your hotel and proceed to rail station.

09:00am – depart Helsinki on Allegro train to St. Petersburg.

02:36pm – Arrive St. Petersburg. You will be transferred to “Ibis” Hotel St. Petersburg.

Free afternoon.

### **Day 4: Saturday 10th May 2014 – St. Petersburg.**

Check out from the hotel and leave your luggage in the Luggage Room.

After breakfast meet your English speaking tour guide in the lobby of your hotel.

10:00am – visit The Russian Museum of Ethnography. This is a historical melting pot of fascinating artefacts. This museum gives an appreciation of the history and culture of Russians, Ukrainians, and Belarusians as well as tribes of the Caucasus, Central Asia and Siberia. Guided tour of the museum’s valuable lace collection. After the ethnographic museum we will visit Cathedral of the Spilled Blood (outside) with Flea market.

02:00pm – We take a tour of Hermitage Museum. Formerly the homes of tsars, the five buildings that comprise the Hermitage now house one of the finest art collections in the world

05:00pm – return to your hotel to collect luggage. Private transfer to rail station.

08:40pm – Overnight train #618 to Vologda



### **Day 5: Sunday 11th May 2014 – Vologda**

08:54am – on arrival to Vologda you will be met by your English Speaking guide and transferred to Hotel “Spasskaya”.

Bobbin lacing has existed since the first quarter of the fourteenth century. The history of Vologda lace goes back to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

After the breakfast at your Hotel - City tour of Vologda. Vologda Lace – Lace of Tsars.

10:00am – Visit lace Factory “Snezhinka”. Master - class. Visit souvenir lace shop. Meet with factory director. The Lace Factory is fascinating place to look around.

Tour of Lace museum. Workshop and meet Yulia Evseeva for a tea break at a local café. You will be able to take your time at the museum and museum shop and walk back to hotel.

### **Day 6: Monday 12th May 2014 – Vologda – Kirov**

04:00am – meet your Tour guide in the lobby of your hotel for the private transfer to the rail station.

05:08am – Train #71 Vologda – Kirov

03.18pm – Arrive Kirov. You will be met by your tour guide and transferred to Hotel “Tsentralnaya”.

04:00pm – Late lunch at the hotel.

05:00pm – Kirov City tour including Lace shop and museum of crafts.

08:30pm – supper in the hotel.

### **Day 7: Tuesday 13th May 2014 – Kirov – Nizhny Novgorod.**

09:00am – Transfer to Sovetsk (former Kukarka). City tour around Sovetsk visiting lace workshop at the lace museum. We meet with the best lace maker Mrs. Kuprina Elena, a teacher of lace studio ‘Lace Fairy Tale’. Lunch at a local restaurant. Time to be advised. Visit the Museum of Dymkovskaya Igrushka and take part in work-shop (Dolls colour).

07:30pm – return to your hotel. Collect luggage. You will be transferred to Rail station.

08:28pm – Train #031 Kirov – Nizhny Novgorod

### **Day 8: Wednesday 14th May 2014 – Nizhny Novgorod.**

02:44am – Arrive Nizhny Novgorod-Russia's fifth largest city. Located at the strategic confluence of the Oka and Volga rivers, Nizhny Novgorod is an important cultural, transport and economic centre of Russia. Transfer to your hotel.

10:00am – after breakfast excursion to Museum “Art Crafts”.

12:00 Noon – transfer to Balakhna (27km) - prominent centres of lace in the 18th to 19th centuries

02:00pm – Lunch at a local restaurant.

03:30pm – Visit Balakhna Lace Museum. Lace- making workshop.

08:00 pm – Return to your hotel.

### **Day 9: Thursday 15th May 2014 – Nizhni Novgorod – Moscow**

10:00am – after the breakfast depart to Chkalovsk (109 km). At the end of the 19th century, in the territory of modern Chkalovsk district, a peculiar kind of embroidery developed. Longitudinal and transversal threads of linen were pulled out on a net with large cells. Such embroidery was given the name of “guipure”.

On arrival city tour and visit to Factory of Arts & Crafts ‘Guipure’. Workshop in lace making. Visiting Exhibition II ‘Guipure’ and souvenir shop. Afternoon tea with local lace makers.

02:00pm – Lunch at a local restaurant.

03:30pm – Private transfer to Nizhny Novgorod. Transfer to rail station.

11:30pm – Train # 35 Nizhniy Novgorod – Moscow.

### **Day 10: Friday 16th May 2014 Moscow**

06:29am – arrival Moscow Yaroslavsky Station. Transfer luggage to Paveletsky Station.

City tour including: Observation platform of Moscow University; Hill of Glory; Monument to Peter the Great.

11:00am – Kremlin Grounds tour and Armoury Chamber – a treasure house. The Armoury Chamber preserves ancient state regalia, ceremonial tsar’s vestments and coronation dress, vestments of the Russia Orthodox Church’s hierarchs, the largest collection of gold and silverware by Russian craftsmen, West European artistic silver ceremonial weapons and arms, carriages, horse ceremonial harness.

02:00pm – Tour of Red square and St. Basil’s Cathedral. From the 16th Century St. Basil’s Cathedral – one of the most famous pieces of architecture in the world - to the constructivist pyramid of Lenin’s Mausoleum, Red Square is rich in symbols of Russia’s turbulent and intriguing past. Arbat street - This is a pedestrian street about one kilometre long in the historical centre of Moscow. The Arbat has existed since at least the 15th century, thus laying claim to being one of the oldest surviving streets of the Russian capital. It forms the heart of Moscow. Metro tour, where each station is a piece of art. Arrive Paveletsky Rail station.

09:42pm – Train #29 Moscow Yelets.

### **Day 11: Saturday 17th May 2014 – Yelets**

05:07am – arrive Yelets. Transfer to Hotel “Yelets” breakfast.

Yelets lace is a unique thread-weaving technique. It is specifically Russian. Yelets is one of the few towns where the lace craft has survived to the present-day. Actually, demand for handmade lace has never waned. Yelets lace is easy to recognize for its subtlety, aerial ornaments and exquisite openwork.

10:00am – City tour around Yelets. Visit the Museum of Crafts. Meet Mrs. Elena Popova - director of the museum. Workshop with local lace makers.

02:00pm – lunch at a local restaurant.

03:00pm – Walking tour of Yelets and visit souvenir lace shop “Yelets Laces”

07:00pm – private transfer to your hotel.

### **Day 12: Sunday 18th of May, 2014 – Yelets – Moscow**

10:00am – after breakfast – visit private collection of Mr. Krikunov. The museum owes its appearance to its founder and director, and a great admirer and collector of Yelets lace, Yevgeny Krikunov. A former gym teacher, he used his own money to purchase a deserted house and transform it into an exposition venue. For years, he has been collecting vintage lace rarities. His collection now boasts samples more than a century old.

Meet the local lace makers. Reception

12:00 Midnight – transfer to the rail station.

### **Day 13: Monday 19th of May, 2014 – Yelets – Moscow.**

01:07am – Train #30 Yelets – Moscow

08:55am – arrival to Moscow.

*End of the Lace Tour*

*But read on*

### **Tour highlights:**

- ❖ Baroque Kadriorg Museum in Tallinn
- ❖ Return Ferry trip Helsinki/Tallinn
- ❖ St. Petersburg Ethnography Museum with valuable lace section
- ❖ Hermitage Museum – formerly the home for Russian Tsars
- ❖ Vologda – where lace history goes back to XVI century
- ❖ Meet with the best lace-maker Mrs. Elena Kuprina
- ❖ Participate in workshop at Dymkovskaya Igrushka
- ❖ Balakhna lace museum
- ❖ Visit exhibition “Guipure”
- ❖ Russia Capital Moscow – tour of Red Square and St. Basil Cathedral; Arbat Street – oldest surviving streets of Moscow; Metro Tour;
- ❖ Yelets where lace craft has survived till present time
- ❖ Meet with Mr. Yevgeny Krikunov – private collector and admirer of Yelets lace;
- ❖ Witness numerous lace-making workshops

### **Inclusions:**

- ✓ Quality three and four star Hotels
- ✓ Return ferry Helsinki – Tallinn
- ✓ Allegro train from Helsinki to St. Petersburg
- ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> class rail throughout Russia
- ✓ Local English speaking professional tours guides
- ✓ Daily breakfasts; five lunches, one supper – mark in the itinerary **B, L, S.**
- ✓ Transportation as per programme in local minivans
- ✓ Workshops

### **Entries:**

- ✓ Kadriorg museum Tallinn
- ✓ St. Petersburg – Russian Museum of ethnography
- ✓ St. Petersburg – Hermitage Museum
- ✓ Vologda – Factory “Snezhinka”
- ✓ Kirov – Museum of crafts
- ✓ Sovetsk (Kukarka) – Lace museum and master class
- ✓ Novgorod Museum of “Art Crafts”
- ✓ Balakhna – Lace museum
- ✓ Chkalovsk – Factory of Arts and Crafts “Guipure”
- ✓ Moscow – Armoury Chamber
- ✓ Yelets – Museum of Crafts
- ✓ Yelets – private collection of Mr. Yevgeny Krikunov



**Exclusions:**

- × International Air tickets
- × Visa to Russia
- × Travel insurance
- × Meals not mentioned above
- × Tips

**Booking Conditions:**

- ✓ A non-refundable deposit of \$400.00 p.person will secure your booking;
- ✓ Balance payment by 04<sup>th</sup> of April, 2014;
- ✓ Cost of the tour is subject to change depending on the number of participants;
- ✓ Cancellation after 7<sup>th</sup> of April, 2014 – no refund;

**Travel insurance:**

We strongly recommend travel insurance to cover medical expenses, personal accidents, loss of deposit & cancellation fees, luggage loss or damage. We can assist you with very competitive rates. Please request a quote.

**Changes to the itinerary:**

International Travel Solutions P/L reserves the right to make changes to the itinerary to fit in with operational requirements. Any changes to the itinerary will be replaced with similar arrangements.

**Refund conditions:**

The tour is based on arrangements which do not allow for any refunds in respect of sightseeing, accommodation, meals, or other services not utilised once the tour has commenced. The cost of the tour is based on minimum 6 passengers.

**Responsibility:**

International Travel Solutions P/L inform that they act as agents for whomever provides the means of travel, accommodation etc. All receipts, tickets, vouchers are issued subject to terms and conditions under which service are provided. International Travel Solutions P/L will not be liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity that may be caused to person or property, however caused during any tour under its management.