

About your tour guide **LEN LOEPPKY**

Len and his wife, Audrey, reside in Steinbach, Manitoba and are active members of the Evangelical Free Church. They have three married sons and eight grandchildren.



Len has been involved in education/administration for many years and Audrey was a nurse by profession. During their five years in Lithuania, Len organized tours throughout Eastern Europe including his first tour to Ukraine. Since then he has hosted nine tours to Ukraine/Russia. Len has also taken five English Language Institute teams to Ukraine. They have also led four tour groups to Brazil, Paraguay, Ecuador and Peru.

In 2010 they hosted two tours, Alpine Europe/Passion Play and Israel. Len also attended the Mennonite Historical Conference in Omsk 2010 and planned/hosted a tour to Moscow, Omsk and Slavgorod in the summer of 2011. The focus was on the Mennonite settlements in Siberia.

The experience in travel and organization makes Len an excellent tour host/organizer.

Tour Package (18 days)

Estimated airfare: **\$2300.**

Estimated land price: **\$3200.**

- Registration and deposit of \$500 Cdn deadline is January 1, 2013
- Final land payment of \$2700 is due April 1, 2013 and is payable to Holiday Travel
- Airfare payment will be by credit card with due date determined by airlines.
- In order to facilitate payment matters, all tour cost after the initial deposit payment will be processed by Holiday Travel.
- For details on RBC and medical insurance please contact the travel agent.

For more tour details, registration, visa processing, and initial tour deposit, please contact your tour host:

Len Loepky
14 Springwood Bay
Steinbach, Manitoba
R5G 2E8
E-mail: aloepky@mymts.net
Phone: 1-204-326-2613

Land Tour Price includes:

- Non-refundable \$500 deposit unless tour is cancelled
- Internal land travel by air conditioned bus as per itinerary
- Hotel/airport transfers
- Double room occupancy. Single supplement is \$600
- Meals as specified in the itinerary and as provided by airlines
- Sight seeing as per itinerary
- Tour guide, tour host and bus driver
- Admission to all sights as per itinerary
- Gratuities for services provided by waiters, and chambermaids in hotel/restaurants
- Detailed handbook of the entire tour

Tour Price does not include:

- Expenses of a personal nature
- Flight and tour cancellation
- Medical, luggage, life insurance
- Optional beverages
- Passport fees
- Russian visa fees
- Meals not specified in itinerary
- Personal gratuities to guides, bus drivers and bell hops
- Side tours not outlined in the itinerary.

Flight and Tour Insurance (RBC)

Unforeseen personal circumstances may force clients to cancel their tour after all arrangements have been made. Should such cancellation be necessary clients are highly advised to purchase flight and tour cancellation insurance commonly known as RBC insurance. Cancellation without such insurance will result in losing tour package cost. It is recommended that all additional tour insurances be purchased through Holiday Travel.

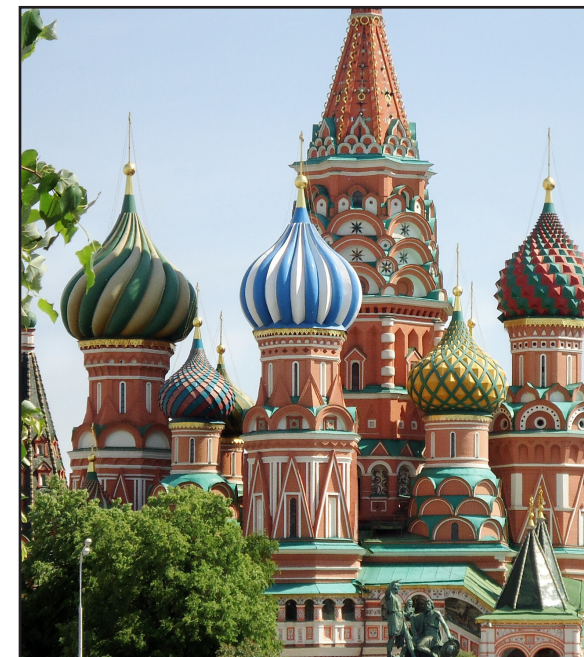
For further details please contact:

Mary Jane Hiebert
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E-mail: MaryJane@holiday-travel.ca
Phone: 1-204-326-1303
Toll Free: 1-800-376-1303

HOLIDAY TRAVEL

Clearspring Centre
Unit 23, 178 PTH 12N,
Steinbach, MB, Canada R5G 1T7

TOUR OF RUSSIA & SIBERIA



with host
LEN LOEPPKY
May 27 to June 13, 2013

Tour Itinerary

Day 1, Monday, May 27

International travel departing from various points in Canada with an overnight flight via Europe to Moscow, Russia. Meals en-route as provided by airlines.

Day 2, Tuesday, May 28

Arrive in Moscow at approximately noon and then continue on the final flight to Omsk. The arrival in Omsk, Siberia will be early evening followed by transfer to hotel for check-in and dinner. Hotel Ibis (D)

Day 3, Wednesday, May 29

Buffet breakfast at the hotel and opportunity to exchange money and become acquainted with the local area. We will have a quick lunch at a local restaurant. Early afternoon we will have an overview tour of the city of Omsk with a local guide focusing on some of the hi-lites like the market, opera house, Baptist Church, Lutheran Church and the new residential areas. Ibis Hotel (B, D)

Day 4, Thursday, May 30

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. This morning we will travel by bus to a village east of Omsk called Neudatchino. A local Mennonite guide will accompany us in the village. We will have opportunity to meet some of the local low German speaking residents, visit the settlement and see the local school, cheese factory, and some of the agricultural endeavors. We will be hosted to a home cooked meal prepared by the church ladies. Later in the afternoon we will return to Omsk. Ibis Hotel (B, L)

Day 5, Friday, May 31

Buffet breakfast at the hotel followed by hotel check-out. Early this morning we will begin our journey southeast to Slavgorod through the picturesque country side dotted with birch groves slowly changing to the Kulundian steppe. This is approximately a 600 km drive. Enroute we will make a stop at a small restaurant in Kopina for lunch and another stop in Karasuk for a short break. Upon arrival in Slavgorod we will be hosted to a dinner at the church after which we will have our hotel check-in. Hotel (B, D)

Day 6, Saturday, June 1

Immediately after breakfast we will return to the city center for a brief overview tour of historical Slavgorod as it relates to the local Mennonites. One of the local Mennonites will be our guide. We will visit some of the local historical places like the "Gelbe Meuhle", execution street, mass grave at the cemetery, local Mennonite businesses, open market, shops and other interesting sites in the small city of about 25,000. (L) Hotel

Day 7, Sunday, June 2

This morning we will attend the local church service and meet some of the church members. There is the possibility of an invitation to a family for dinner. In the mid afternoon we will travel by bus to another Mennonite settlement just east of Slavgorod called Saratov. We will be hosted to a meal by the church family. (D) Hotel

Day 8, Monday, June 3

Today will be a day of much driving where we will visit the Mennonite settlements of Glyaden and Pashnaya. You will experience local country hospitality by Mennonite families. This will be a very long but extremely interesting day. We will be hosted to a dinner in Glyaden and likely attend a short church assembly to meet people from the other villages. Enroute back to Slavgorod we will stop in the Pashnaya area for another church hosted meal. (L, D) Hotel

Day 9, Tuesday, June 4

This will be a free day to enjoy the tourist resort/spa area for relaxation and personal revitalization...swim, have a massage, shop, read etc. Today you will be responsible for all your own meals. Hotel

Day 10, Wednesday, June 5

Personal breakfast at the hotel. Today we will travel to a large settlement northeast of Slavgorod (Barnaul Settlement) and visit some of the many villages. German influences will be obvious. We will also visit specific villages as requested by clients. We will enjoy a personal picnic lunch at noon and return to our hotel for some rest and relaxation later in the afternoon. (D) Hotel

Day 11, Thursday, June 6

After breakfast and hotel check out and saying our farewells we will travel back to Omsk for another night's stay in Omsk. Lunch/dinner personal Ibis Hotel

Day 12, Friday, June 7

After our buffet breakfast and hotel check out we will travel west of Omsk to visit numerous Mennonite settlements for the next three days. Today we will focus on the Appolonovka area which is call Waldheim. Here we will visit a very progressive village where the residents have established numerous businesses as well as operate a very successful farming enterprise. The village has a large and very active church community. You will have home stays in this village. (B)

Day 13, Saturday, June 8

After breakfast we will travel to the Sonsuvka area ...formerly consisting of three villages...Rosenort, Tiegerweide, and Friedensruh. A local guide will accompany us as we visit the villages and meet some of the local residents and have lunch at a collective farm. We will continue on to IsilKul, an urban center, where we will visit a large local church, railway station and do another home- stay. We will also visit the villages of Margenau, Putskova, Muskalenka, Mirolyubovka. (L)

Day 14, Sunday, June 9

Today we will focus on the annual "Saengerfest" in the village Mirolyubovka, formerly Alexanderkrone. This will be an all day event with Mennonites in attendance from across the area. You will again have opportunity to visit the local village of Alexanderkrone before returning to Omsk for our last night in Siberia. (D) Hotel Ibis

Day 15, Monday, June 10

The buffet breakfast will be followed by hotel check out and transfer to the airport for our flight to Moscow. Upon arrival in Moscow we will be met by our guide and do a city tour... Christ the Savior Cathedral, University of Moscow, Convent, Sparrow's Hill, new residential areas, and other historical sites. By mid- afternoon we will go to the hotel for check-in and some relaxation. (B, L) Hotel Vega

Day 16, Tuesday, June 11

After breakfast we will take the metro and spent the day in the Kremlin area. We will focus on the Kremlin with its many components...Armoury, cathedrals, bell, cannon, gardens etc. After lunch will be devoted to Red Square, St Basils, GUM and the many kiosks just outside the square. (B, L) Hotel Vega

Day 17, Wednesday, June 12

After a leisurely buffet breakfast we will again travel by metro to the famous Arbat Street for shopping, browsing and leisure dining. If you have some other interest or places that you may want to visit we will assist you in making it happen. Tonight we have to repack our bags for our homeward trip. (B) Hotel Vega.

Day 18, Thursday, June 13

An early breakfast followed by hotel check-out and transfer to the airport for our international flights back to Canada. We will go through customs in Toronto.

I reserve the right to make changes, to add or delete as circumstances may dictate. I am acting as your agent in making arrangements for the tour and shall not be held liable for any loss, damages, delay, injury or death, mental distress, financial loss and/or enjoyment that you as a passenger may experience during the tour. -Len Loeppky