“THE EASTERN FRONT”
75TH ANNIVERSARY OF CASE BLUE—1942
WWII RUSSIA KURSK, MOSCOW & STALINGRAD
29 JUN - 9 JULY 2017
ST. PETERSBURG POST-TOUR 9–13 JULY
This year we return for the 75th Anniversary of Case Blue was the Wehrmacht’s name for its plan for the 1942 strategic summer offensive in Russia between 28 June and 24 November 1942. The operation was a continuation of the previous year’s Operation Barbarossa, intended to knock the Soviet Union out of the war, and involved a two-pronged attack against the oil fields of Baku as well as an advance in the direction of Stalingrad along the Volga River.

For many historians, the most brutal and titanic struggle of the Second World War was fought between the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany and their allies. From June, 1941 until the fall of Berlin in May, 1945, war was conducted on a grand scale, with the largest concentration of men and material being employed during the conflict. Casualties too, were on a grand scale, to include massive losses among Soviet Civilians, as well as their military units. During our tour you will have the opportunity to visit the four cities where the most important battles of the Great Patriotic War (WW II) took place and visit them as part of our 70th Anniversaries of the Eastern Front Tours.

MOSCOW was to have a key role in this devastating war. The initial German plans of Operation Barbarossa concentrated on the destruction of the Red Army, and the offensive against Moscow. By the beginning of December some German formations were only about 40 kilometers north west of the Kremlin before the Russian Winter stalled the advance.

STALINGRAD (now Volgograd) is the site of the fierce and decisive battle which is considered by Russians, and historians, as a turning point in the WWII. The city was totally destroyed in the battle.

KURSK located near the Prohorovka battlefield where the largest tank engagement of WWII was fought during Operation Citadel. The Russian Victory Celebration will feature WWII period military vehicles with tanks, field artillery, armored personnel carriers, trucks, motorcycles and hundreds of re-enactors in authentic uniforms with re-enactors

LENINGRAD (now St. Petersburg) is the site of the longest siege in the war. The siege left the city devastated and the population destroyed. Today the city, restored and rebuilt, is a jewel celebrating its vibrant history going back to Peter the Great.

MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS is proud to offer another in our series of historic anniversary tours to the battlefields of the world. Our tour starts in Moscow and proceeds to Stalingrad, with a comprehensive “on the ground” exploration of the battlefields, continuing to Kursk for one of the largest WWII reenactments ever conducted featuring tanks and other heavy military vehicles. We conclude our historic pilgrimage with a optional trip to St. Petersburg, one of the world’s most beautiful cities.

Our tours include exclusive events, such as dinner lectures and speakers on subjects of historic interest; battlefield explorations and reenactments; exclusive access to museums; and much more. Information on the events that are offered on your particular expedition will be included in your registration information packet.

All of these things, along with the most experienced Tour Leaders will make your trip the most enjoyable, relaxing, entertaining and educational experience possible. We welcome your phone calls, letters or e-mails to discuss your tour with one of our Battlefield Specialists.

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**Tour Price:** $4,450*
Based on double Occupancy
**Single Room Supplement:** $690*
**Single Train Compartment:** $490*
**Post-Tour Price:** $2,295*
Based on double Occupancy
**Single Room Supplement:** $525*

**Tour Price Includes:**
- All Russian rail & air transportation
- Russia Visa Service (a $350 value that makes sure it’s correctly done)
- Transfer to/from DME Airport upon Arrival & departure (days listed)
- Fully escorted sightseeing program by experienced English Speaking Tour Leaders & professional drivers
- Luxury motor coach throughout tour
- First class hotel accommodations
- Half Board (All Breakfast & Lunches Included)
- Emergency Medical & Evacuation Insurance
- Entrance fees to all places of interest listed in the itinerary
  
  * - Final price dependent on currency conversion rates ^ - Arrival Time Restraint

Airfare Not Included: Get your own or Book MHT’s Optional Airfare: Round-trip economy or business class airfare from your hometown to Moscow-priced upon registration!
**Daily Itinerary**

29 June DAY ONE - DEPARTURE
Depart for flight to Moscow.

30 June DAY TWO – ARRIVAL
Upon Arrival in Moscow at Domodedova (DME) the following day, transfer to hotel to check into our hotel, with balance of day to rest and relax or begin sightseeing. Tonight we gather for a Welcome Dinner and briefing on our tour. **Hotel:** Intourist **Meals:** B/L/D

1 July DAY THREE - MOSCOW
This morning we take a tour around central Moscow including the GUM department store, Lubyanka Square, Red Square and Lenin's tomb before we catch the flight to Volgograd (Stalingrad) (dinner in flight) and check into our hotel for two nights. **Hotel:** Intourist **Meals:** B/L/D

2 July DAY FOUR - STALINGRAD
Today is a full day of exploring the Stalingrad battlefields including the Mamaev Hill, the Factory District, the Grain Elevator, the Volga river crossing, the Lyudnikov's island, the Paulus last HQ and the famed Stalingrad panorama. **Hotel:** Intourist **Meals:** B/L

3 July DAY FIVE - STALINGRAD to MOSCOW
We take a boat trip up the Volga past the giant Mother Russia monument and up to the Factory District. There will be an opportunity for some free time before we catch our return flight to Moscow (dinner in flight). Check into our Moscow hotel for one night. **Hotel:** Cosmos **Meals:** B/L

4 July DAY SIX - MOSCOW to KURSK
Happy 4th of July as we start the day with the meeting and lunch with war veterans in the Counsel of Moscow Veterans followed by a visit of the superb Museum of the Great Patriotic War on Poklonnaya Hill. In the evening we catch overnight train to explore Kursk battle. **Meals:** B/L

5 July DAY SEVEN - KURSK
We will arrive in Kursk the following morning and take a trip to Poniry store, Lubyanka Square, Red Square and Lenin's tomb before we catch the flight to Volgograd (Stalingrad) (dinner in flight) and check into our hotel for two nights. **Hotel:** Cosmos **Meals:** B/L

6 July DAY EIGHT - Kursk to MOSCOW
We start the day with a drive to Jakovievo and follow the path of the “death ride” of the Fourth Panzer Army. Explore the battlefield around Prokhorovka, the furthest extent of the German advance and the site of the massive tank battle between the Wehrmacht’s 4th Panzer and the Red Army’s 5th Guards Tank Armies. View the WWII re-creators, static displays and vehicles from all over the world. We will be in Kursk for the Commemoration & Ceremonies for the battle that the Germans named Operation Citadel that commenced 5 July. Visit the museum and monument at Prokhorovka (including the preserved trenches and gun emplacements.) Return to Kursk and catch the overnight train to Moscow. **Meals:** B/L

7 July DAY NINE - MOSCOW
Today we drive outside of the city to enjoy a tour of the Monino Military Aircraft museum. The museum is part of a military airbase and traces the history of Russian aviation from the first days up to the present. In the afternoon we visit the Armed Forces museum to look at the Soviet and German relics of the Second World War. **Hotel:** Cosmos **Meals:** B/L

8 July DAY TEN - MOSCOW
Drive out to the massive Tank Museum at Kubinka with its huge collection of WW2 armoured vehicles, which has only just recently been open to Westerners. After lunch we visit the 42nd kilometer where Germans were stopped on Volokolamsky highway and look at exposition of WW2 equipment. **Hotel:** Cosmos **Meals:** B/L

9 July DAY ELEVEN - DEPARTURE
Today we say dasveedAnja to Russia as we transfer to the airport for the afternoon flights for your return flight to the USA. We arrive back the same day. Or join us to see the magic and history of St. Petersburg. **Meals:** B

**Post-Tour to St. Petersburg**

9 July (DAY 11) ST. PETERSBURG
After breakfast, we head for the high-speed train to St. Petersburg. In the afternoon we depart for the journey following the “Road of Life", arriving at Lake Ladoga. Tour the lakeside museum of the epic struggle of the siege of Leningrad. **Hotel:** Park Inn **Meals:** B/L

10 July (DAY 12) ST. PETERSBURG
This morning we have a city tour of Saint-Petersburg which is considered to be the cultural capital of Russia. During the tour we will be visiting the Peter and Paul Fortress which was built to defend the city from Naval threats but was also served as a political prison and a burial place for the Russian Tsars. **Hotel:** Park Inn **Meals:** B/D

11 July (DAY 13) ST. PETERSBURG
Travel outside the city to the world famous summer home of Peter the Great, located on the shores of the Baltic Sea. Enjoy both the interior and exterior of this famous palace. Return to St. Petersburg and then visit the famous Hermitage Museum and its renowned display of Russian cultural history. **Hotel:** Park Inn **Meals:** B/L

12 July (DAY 14) ST. PETERSBURG
In the morning we will visit the Defense of Leningrad Museum which educates us about the 900 day siege of the city. The second part of the day is dedicated to the battleship Aurora which fired the shot that began the Russian revolution. **Hotel:** Park Inn **Meals:** B/L

13 July (DAY 15) ST. PETERSBURG
We head for the airport for our flight to the USA. **Meals:** B/D (in flight)
WWII Russian Battlefields 2017