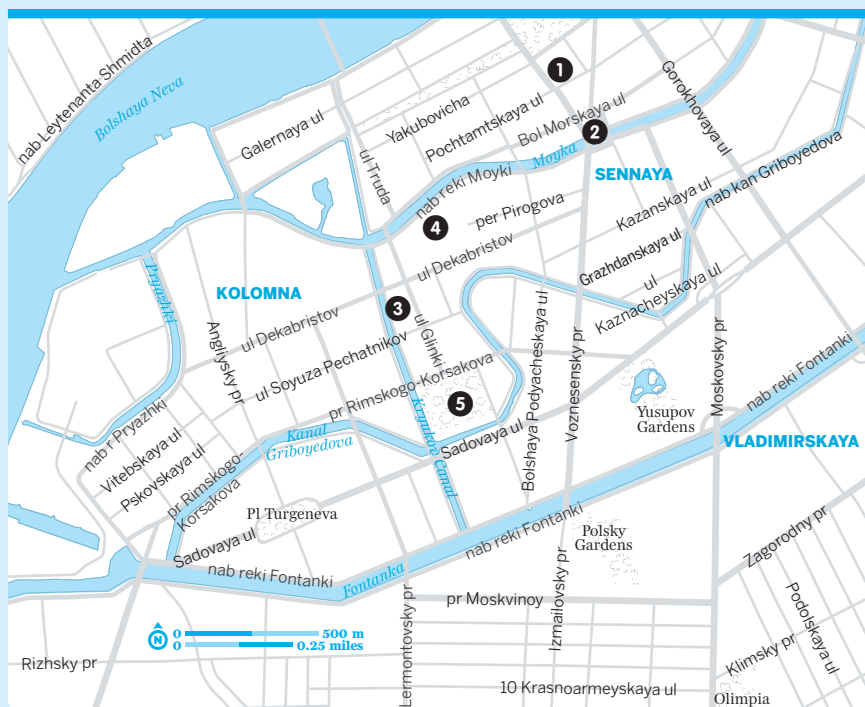


# Sennaya & Kolomna

## Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Climb the 262 steps to the golden dome of marvelous **St Isaac's Cathedral** (p103) for breathtaking views over the Historic Heart and the Neva River. Inside, the cathedral boasts impressive baroque interiors of malachite and marble.
- 2 Take in the symbol of St Petersburg among the new-lweds at the statue of the **Bronze Horseman** (p106), Catherine the Great's homage to Peter the Great.
- 3 See a dazzling Russian ballet or opera classic at the iconic **Mariinsky Theatre** (p107).
- 4 Marvel at the interiors and hear tales of Rasputin's grizzly end at the impressive **Yusupov Palace** (p105).
- 5 Visit perhaps St Petersburg's single prettiest church, the sky-blue and gold **Nikolsky Cathedral** (p107), surrounded by canals and charming gardens.



## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Book ahead of time to see the ballet or opera performance you're interested in at the Mariinsky Theatre ([www.mariinsky.ru](http://www.mariinsky.ru)), especially during the White Nights, when performances of popular productions sell out months in advance. You can book and pay for tickets on the website, and then collect them at the box office before the performance, which is much better than trying to find what's available once you're in town.



### Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Sadko (p111)
- ➔ Teplo (p111)
- ➔ Russian Vodka Room No 1 (p111)
- ➔ Backstage (p112)

For reviews, see p110 ➔



### Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Stirka (p112)
- ➔ Hundertwasser Bar (p113)
- ➔ Bardak (p112)
- ➔ Shamrock (p113)

For reviews, see p112 ➔



### Best Palaces

- ➔ Yusupov Palace (p105)
- ➔ House of Music (p110)
- ➔ Old Yusupov Palace (p104)
- ➔ Rumyantsev Mansion (p109)

For reviews, see p104 ➔

## Explore: Sennaya & Kolomna

Sennaya and Kolomna are two very different areas directly to the west of Nevsky pr, both wedged between the Fontanka and Neva Rivers. Sennaya, focused on the eponymous Sennaya pl (Haymarket), is one of the city's busiest commercial neighbourhoods and is also rather rundown. The poverty so vividly brought to life in Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment*, may no longer be evident here any more, but you'll immediately notice that this is a poorer, scruffier part of town than the Historic Heart, with few of the embellishments.

Kolomna, named after the largest of the seven islands that make up the neighbourhood, is by contrast something of a sleepy village in the heart of the city. With no metro station and surrounded on three sides by water, it's a beautiful and relaxed backwater that also includes the world-famous Mariinsky Theatre and the soon-to-be-famous new cultural development at New Holland.

## Local Life

➔ **Canal Life** Sennaya and Kolomna are home to some of the prettiest stretches of canal in the city, well away from the crowds. Check out the gorgeous Kryukov Canal, the far end of Kanal Griboyedov and the almost totally unknown Pryazhka River.

➔ **Free Concerts** Check out the Maly Zal (small hall) at the Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory (p114), where you'll often see fantastic-quality free concerts from students and alumni.

➔ **Transport Issues** Get to know the bus and *marshrutka* routes if you're going to be spending any time in Kolomna, where there's no metro and distances between sights on foot can be very long.

## Getting There & Away

➔ **Metro** Sennaya is served by the interconnecting Sennaya pl (Line 2 and 5) and Spasskaya (Line 4), the city's biggest interchange station. Kolomna is not served by the metro, so you'll need to walk from Sennaya pl or Admiralteyskaya.

➔ **Bus** Bus 3 connects the Mariinsky with Nevsky pr via Bolshaya Morskaya ul.

➔ **Marshrutka** *Marshrutka* 7 runs from Sennaya pl all the way to the far end of Sadovaya ul in Kolomna.