St Petersburg’s Historic Heart

This stroll takes in the grandeur of central St Petersburg, with its magnificent palaces, churches, canals, bridges and statues.

Start Dvortsovaya pl
Distance 2km
Duration three hours

1 Magnificent Palace Square is simply one of the world’s most striking plazas.

2 On the Moyka River is the Pushkin Flat-Museum (www.museumpushkin.ru; adult/student R250/150; 10.30am–5pm Wed–Sun), former residence of Russia’s most celebrated poet.

3 Konyushennaya ploschad is dominated by the 18th-century court stables.

4 The spectacular Church of the Saviour on the Spilled Blood is backed by shady Mikhailovsky Garden.

5 Pretty Ploschad Iskusstv is ringed by celebrated cultural institutions, including the Russian Museum.

6 The Kazan Cathedral is a formidable sight. Behind it, Bankovsky most is the city’s most picturesque bridge.

7 Bolshoy Gostiny Dvor is an 18th-century trading arcade still serving shoppers.

Take a Break Hit Gräls x Måbären for great Scandi-Russian fusion dishes.

8 Ploschad Ostrovskogo has an impressive statue of Catherine the Great; admire the Alexandrinsky Theatre facade.