White Nights

INSIDE:

- St. Petersburg's Masonic legacy
- A city break in neighboring Riga
- Europe's best music festivals
- Summer food and city dining

JUNE 2012
A stone’s throw from Smolny Cathedral

ON THE BANKS OF THE RIVER NEVA
Noble families have settled on the Smolny Embankment since the time of Peter the Great. Over the course of time, the prestige of the area has increased — together with the preservation of its exclusive privacy. It was here that the famous Institute for Noble Maidens was founded. Today, the building in which the pupils of the institute used to live is home to the city government. The city’s elite has always appreciated the special local microclimate.

The River Neva embraces this district and its homogeneous social environment, convenient traffic access and advanced infrastructure. A premium residential complex, Smolny Park, is currently being built close to the baroque splendour of Smolny Cathedral. The entire project is scheduled for completion in 2014.

SURROUNDED BY GREENERY
The first building of the Smolny Park complex (phase 1) has already been built and will be launched in the near future. Phase 2 apartments, consisting of small buildings set among ancient trees, will soon go on sale. The first properties to go on sale will be apartments in the eight-story fifth and sixth blocks. The architectural design of these prestigious residences by Zemtsova, Kondiai and Partners architectural bureau was created with full consideration of the green band around the new buildings. It is no coincidence that the Smolny Park project was awarded the bronze medal at the 19th International Architecture Festival 2011 in the Architectural Works of 2009-2011 section.

The second stage of the acclaimed complex looks set to become a unique project because it has no analogues, nor are any expected to appear; there are no other such sites in the city. The project’s small buildings are located in the center of St. Petersburg, in the sunniest place and in a park, all at the same time. No built-in commercial premises are foreseen, so the tranquility of residents won’t be disturbed. The buildings will have all the attributes of premium accommodation: a parking lot under each building, halls and stairs decorated according to an exclusive design project, and cutting-edge engineering systems. Particular attention is drawn to the large lobbies, atrium stair halls and panoramic elevators. And, of course, the most important aspect is the splendid views over greenery offered from all apartments. From the upper floors, the Neva River, historic monuments and cathedral domes can be seen. The undisturbed dominant object is the magnificent ensemble of Francesco Bartolomeo Rastrelli, which creates a special atmosphere of the bank of the Neva in the place where the river makes a smooth curve.

PAYMENT CAN BE MADE IN INSTALLMENTS, MORTGAGES ARE ACCEPTED
The range of apartment designs in Smolny Park is broad. Most of the apartments are 3-bedroom and 4-bedroom ones, which are currently the most popular and meet the most demand. For connoisseurs of luxury, there are spacious penthouses with total areas of more than 260 sq.m. with classic views of Smolny Cathedral. For buyers of the stage 1 apartments, four major banks are offering mortgage schemes. When purchasing a second stage apartment, buyers can take advantage of a bonus offer: the developer is offering an interest-free installment plan through the end of construction.

Smolnaya Emb., Smolnogo Street
Complex under construction

- Close to Smolny Cathedral
- Panoramic views of the Neva River and cathedral
- 1- to 6-room apartments
- A-class offices
- Underground parking
- Payment by installments – 0% interest

SALES OF APARTMENTS AND OFFICES IN THE CENTER OF ST. PETERSBURG
(812) 688-88-88
WWW.6888888.RU
36 KAZANSKAYA STR., ST. PETERSBURG

MUSIC FESTIVALS: The lowdown on Europe’s top music festivals.

LOCAL HISTORY: The city’s Masonic legacy survives to this day.

TRAVEL: Neighboring Riga makes a great getaway.

SUMMER FOOD: Even the most basic dachas can prove bountiful.

CONCERTS: This summer, the city will see some great gigs.

RESTAURANTS: A guide to St. Petersburg eateries, old and new.
Festival

Destination: music festival

BY LILYA DASHKEVICH
THE ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

A guide to the coolest bands and hottest festivals around Europe this summer.

Every summer, Europe plays host to a muddy medley of open-air festivals with fantastic lineups. Cities enter a global competition to entice travelers with a relatively new kind of tourist attraction. A festival is a packed and varied vacation, offering the chance to visit another city, sample local cuisine, go sightseeing and clubbing as well as enjoying performances by some of the most popular bands.

Hector Berlioz said: “Music is the very soul of a great church.” Visiting festivals allows travelers to get a fascinating insight into the national spirit, culture and traditions of the host country. And the best part of any musical fiesta is that they bring together all kinds of different people, united by a love of music and travel.

The St. Petersburg Times presents a guide to the European summer music festivals with the best lineups this year. Even those who have already planned a summer vacation may be pleasantly surprised to discover that a much loved musician will be performing live in their destination city.

JULY

ROCK WERCHTER
Leuven, Belgium
June 28 – July 1

Rock Werchter is one of the biggest events in placid Belgium. This year, as the festival celebrates its 37th birthday, it will host about 80,000 visitors, with musicians taking to three stages in a total of about 80 shows. The event is located 30 kilometers from Brussels in the village of Werchter. www.rockwerchter.be

HEINEKEN OPEN’ER
Gdynia, Poland
July 4-7

Nearby Poland may not be the ultimate dream for many Russian travelers, but Gdynia is one of the most popular Polish seaside resorts on the Baltic coast, which, along with the lineup, is a major incentive to visit Open’er. The festival is held on the territory of the Kosakowo former military airbase, on a huge field in which seven stages are set up for the four-day fiesta. The festival is relatively young — next year it will celebrate its tenth birthday — but in 2011 was named Best Major Festival by the European Festival Awards. www.opener.pl

RUISROCK
Ruissalo Island, Turku, Finland
July 6-8

The first Ruisrock festival was organized the year after the legendary Woodstock “happening” in the U.S., and was intended to operate along similar lines. Today, it’s one of Finland’s biggest festivals and one of the oldest in the world. The festival takes place on the island of Ruissalo, to the west of the city of Turku. The island can be reached by road or boat; the journey can be made even more enjoyable by combining it with an excursion along the canals. Ruissalo Island looks particularly impressive from the water during the concerts, and the water also offers the best vantage point of the light show and people bungee jumping. www.ruisrock.fi

BBK
Bilbao, Spain
July 12-14

Bilbao BBK festival started as a small local project, but in a few years grew into “Best Medium Festival,” according to the European Festival Awards. The festival has three main stages, as...
The Benicassim festival on Spain’s Costa Azahar combines a beach vacation with performances by international bands.

**BENICASSIM**
Costa Azahar, Spain
July 12-15

**LINE UP:**
Gossip, Justice, Lana Del Ray, M83, Bloc Party, Two Door Cinema Club and others.

Since 1999, Melt! festival has been held in the unusual location of a former opencast mine. Ferropolis, the “city of iron,” is now an open-air museum, where giant industrial machinery dating from the middle of the 20th century can be admired. In 1995, the museum was included in the European Route of Industrial Heritage list; perhaps this is one of the factors in the festival’s ability to attract thousands of music lovers from all over Europe every year.

This year, Sziget marks its 20th anniversary on the shores of the Danube, on a magical island with an area of 108 hectares. Every year, the event attracts about 400,000 music lovers from around the world who stay in tents, trailers or hotels. The event is commendably well organized: The campsite is open for a whole week, and the island has everything festival-goers could possibly need, from numerous bars and burger vans to a currency exchange point and post office.

This year Sziget fans can buy a Sziget-Budapest Citypass that costs 30 euros and is available from August 2-14. The pass provides free access to museums and Hungary’s legendary baths, as well as to all public transport, including boats. Budapest is an inexpensive city well worth a visit, whether you’re staying in tents, trailers or hotels.

Flow festival is a young but fast-growing music and arts festival located in the heart of the Finnish capital. The festival is particularly tempting for its proximity to St. Petersburg and its wide selection of music from indie-rock to soul. Helsinki also has the advantage for Russian travelers of being an inexpensive departure point for other European destinations, with dozens of cheap options from ferries to neighboring countries or budget flights to all over Europe.

**LEEDS & READING**
Leeds/Reading, UK
August 24-26

**LINE UP:**
Kasabian, Foo Fighters, Florence + the Machine, The Black Keys, Crystal Castles and others.

These festivals are perfect twins, sharing awesome lineups and working in tandem: The musicians play at one venue one day, and the other the next day. The basic requirements for experiencing the full romance of the festival are simple: Wellies, a tent, raincoat and backpack.

5-star Domina Prestige Hotel, St. Petersburg invites you to experience our five dimensions of hospitality at 99, Moika River embankment.

** SPECIAL OFFER FOR ACCOMMODATION IN JULY AND AUGUST**

5. star Domina Prestige Hotel, St. Petersburg invites you to experience our five dimensions of hospitality at 99, Moika River embankment.

5-star Domina Prestige Hotel, St. Petersburg invites you to experience our five dimensions of hospitality at 99, Moika River embankment.

**Accommodation in 109 colorful rooms**
- Innovative Italian fusion cuisine at Arcobaleno
- Cocktails & music at Bar Nove
- Private fitness & wellness center
- Original conference facilities – Atelier99 & Office99
- Free Wi-Fi
- Unique location – two steps from St. Isaac’s Cathedral, Nevsky Prospect and the Mariinsky Theater

**Special offer for accommodation in July and August**

- from 6,200 rubles, including breakfast buffet and taxes!

**Domina Prestige Hotel, St. Petersburg**
99 Moika River embankment
St. Petersburg 199000 Russia

+7 (812) 385 99 00
+7 (812) 385 99 11
welcome@dominarussia.com
www.dominarussia.com
Few people realize that many of the city’s landmarks conceal Masonic signs and symbols.

St. Petersburg is known as many things: the Venice of the North, the Northern capital, the cultural capital... One of its lesser-known titles is the Masonry capital of Russia. Even now, attentive strollers can find secret Masonic signs and symbols on many city buildings, including the most famous St. Petersburg monuments.

The main Masonic symbol — the Eye of Providence — decorates the iconic Kazansky Cathedral, the city’s main Orthodox church. The sign, a triangle surrounded by rays of light, represents the eye of God watching over humanity, and has its roots in ancient Egyptian mythology as well as Buddhism and Hinduism. There is a similar sign in Christianity, in which the Eye is an image of the Trinity. Nowadays, it is usually associated with Freemasonry, with the additional meaning that Masons asked God to bless their deeds.

During the reign of Paul I (1796-1801), Freemasonry became a strong and affluent force in Russia. Among the rulers and noblemen who came later were also many adherents of Freemasonry. Many of St. Petersburg’s most famous buildings in which they lived still bear secret Masonic signs even to this day, the most popular being architectural elements. Those in the know could recognize and interpret these signs. For example, the attic of the Academy of Arts on Vasilyevsky Island where the city’s Masonic Lodge was based in the late 18th century is decorated with the widespread Masonic sign of the Square and Compasses. According to one version, the square represents human knowledge of the world. Mankind learns about the world with the use of science and mathematics, and the compasses show the path to knowledge.
cal instruments — the wooden square. Yet he is restricted by his mind and mortality and should remember that it is impossible to fully learn the truth. The compass represents God’s wisdom that can make both circles and lines — there is nothing God cannot do. However, mystery surrounds the Freemasonry movement to this day, and there are no universally accepted meanings of this symbol.

Another popular sign is the six-cornered Star of David that can be found in the floor pattern of the Church of the Spilled Blood and on the dome of Troitsky Cathedral, as well as in some other churches. The star consists of two triangles. According to one theory, the upper one represents man striving to be nearer to God, while the lower one depicts God descending to humanity. The world is in the middle. Another version maintains that the star is an ancient sign used by the Knights Templar to represent male and female essence.

Some historians link the Masons to the Knights Templar, as the Freemasonry movement emerged soon after the Knights Templar were destroyed, and Freemasonry incorporates numerous Templar symbols and rituals. The latter were also skilled stonemasons. The Masons also guarded in great secrecy some ancient knowledge that was discussed at special meetings. Mysterious buildings were constructed for this very purpose. One such mystical place is the rotunda built in 1827 on the corner of the Fontanka embankment and Gorokhovaya Ulitsa: An unremarkable round space with six columns and a ladder, and Masonic signs inside. There was a legend that the rotunda housed the center of the universe and that the Masons gathered there.

It is known for certain, however, that at the end of the 18th century, the members of the Great Lodge gathered in the cellars of the palace of Grand Chancellor Alexander Bezborodko (1747-1799). As an affluent Mason, Bezborodko supposedly built a whole underground complex in the cellars of his palace on Pochtamtskaya Ulitsa. Some historians believe the complex housed an alchemy laboratory, where the Masons sought the elixir-stone. Recently, researchers have found Masonic signs built into the columns of the palace’s main state room. The meaning of the signs is still unknown, as even experts on Masonic imagery can recognize well-known symbols but not necessarily interpret the hidden messages that they represent.

Similarly, the mystery of the 29 lions in front of the Bezborodko residence on the Sverdlovskaya embankment is still unsolved. In Freemasonry, the lion symbolizes masculinity and power, while the number of lions connecting the chain in front of the dacha corresponds to the stages of initiation into the Masons. Even now, much of the Freemasonry movement remains shrouded in mystery. City residents may pass Masonic imagery every day and be unaware of it, while visitors to St. Petersburg may admire and photograph the city’s iconic landmarks without ever realizing that Masonic symbols are present in many of them.

The Eye of Providence in Kazansky Cathedral. The Eye of Providence can also be found on the pedestal of the Alexander Column on Palace Square.

Fine architecture in St. Petersburg

ALEXANDRA
23 NOVOGORDIYSKAYA UL.
Alexandra — an elite residential complex in the center of St. Petersburg facing Smolny Cathedral

Architect: Ricardo Bofill (Spain)
- House with excellent infrastructure
- Apartments from 40 sq.m. to 200 sq.m.
- Attractive courtyard
- Heated car park with elevator
- Panoramic views of the Neva River and Smolny Cathedral
- Exclusive design of rooms

Commercial premises
from 90 sq.m. to 1500 sq.m.

320 7676
St. Petersburg, Vasilevsky Island
22 Malo Prospekt
Tel: +7 (812) 320-7676, www.rbi.ru
konyushenny dvor
“MARSTALL”
www.kondvor.ru

The bar now has its own brewery!

ALPEN BIER
beer priced at 150 rubles per 400 ml

- Light filtered
- Dark filtered
- Light not filtered
- Light wheaten

Euro hits and dance music
Erotic shows from 23.00
Foreigners- FREE entrance!
14.00 to 06.00 daily
Griboedova kanal 5, tel. 315-76-07

ROSSI’S CLUB

- dance party
- strip-show
- european cuisine
- karaoke-bar

Popular music only

tel. 710-40-16
Saint-Petersburg
1/3, Zodchego
Rossi street
(@ “Gostiny Dvor”)

Show daily
11.00 pm - 6:00 am

www.rossis.ru
The Latvian capital of Riga is just an overnight train ride away from St. Petersburg, making it an excellent short break destination.

**GETTING THERE:**

There are daily overnight trains and buses between St. Petersburg and Riga, the latter operated by Eurolines and Ecolines. There are also daily direct Air Baltic flights from St. Petersburg to Riga.

**WHERE TO STAY:**

**Elizabetes Hotel.** Elizabetes 27. Tel. (+371) 67 50 92 92. www.elizabetehotel.lv

A stylish Art Deco property located in the quiet Art Nouveau district.

**Konventa Seta.** Kaleju 9/11. Tel. (+371) 67 08 75 07. www.hotelkolonna.com/konventa-seta

A historic hotel housed in medieval buildings.

---

Immediately upon arriving in Riga, this journalist was subjected to a sobering talk by a tipsy retired Russian officer, who dismissed the city as a holiday destination for Russians, arguing that the local Russian population is sneered at, struggles to find employment and is even ignored by the Russian embassy.

His bitter words, which were not completely unfounded — sad-looking, soft-spoken Russians can frequently be encountered on the city's streets — were not, however, a portent of things to come: Latvians are in fact extremely friendly, even to citizens of their giant neighbor, with whom they have a less than harmonious history.

This troubled relationship is explored at the haunting Museum of the Occupation of Latvia, centrally located at 1 Strelnieku iela, just in front of the iconic House of the Blackheads. The museum’s collection focuses on the hardships suffered by Latvian people under the Nazi and Soviet regimes, and cover the period from 1940 to 1991.

Although some Russians maintain that the very existence of the museum is an insult, the display, while judgmental — the indignation felt by the oppressed toward their occupiers is almost physically tangible — is amazingly personal. The exposition includes deeply private items, such as letters from Gulag prisoners to their families.

A black-and-white video chronicle offering a factual account of the political persecution that took place in the country — available in several languages, including both English and Russian — can be played on one of the wall screens.

One of the most harrowing sections of the museum is a reconstruction of a typical gulag barrack, complete with a gigantic rusted parasha — a barrel used as a toilet — in the far corner. Pinned up on the wall is a note written by a Latvian prisoner who recounts the humiliation that inmates endured when they had to use it in front of each other.

“Not once over the several years that I spent there was a piece of toilet paper ever offered to me; the stench penetrated all of our clothes and accompanied us everywhere,” the former inmate wrote. “And there were so many of us in the cells that the waste would splash onto those who happened to be standing nearby.”

The only important detail still missing is a notice saying that the shameful parasha is still in use in Russian prisons.

There is no set entrance fee to enter the museum, but a donation is required.

There is, however, a far lighter side to the Latvian capital. The stylish city is home to Europe’s largest Art Nouveau district, and exploring the decadent charms of Riga’s early 20th-century districts, which hide around 800 Art Nouveau masterpieces — eccentric and demure, romantic and decorative...
— is a thrill. Almost all of the buildings there were designed by homegrown architects. The most fascinating area is that around Alberta, Elizabetes, Strelnieku and Brivibas streets. To get a clear idea of what to see and where, watch the movie shown at the Art Nouveau Museum on Strelnieku street, which recommends particular addresses worth visiting. Opposite the museum is a gift shop that sells replicas and modern twists on Art Nouveau ornaments, including plaster copies of gargoyles and fine jewelry made from silver, glass and porcelain.

This charming district also contains some extremely homey restaurants, often located in wooden houses from the early 20th century. Riga natives give the traditional Baltic herring dish their own flare by serving it with cottage cheese and potatoes. In many restaurants, vegetarian fare is both cheap and abundant, a pleasant change from St. Petersburg’s beef- and chicken-centric eateries. Kamadena vegetarian cafe and Fazenda restaurant in particular come highly recommended.

The historical center of the city is very compact, and can easily be explored on foot. On weekends it can get loud and touristy, so the area is at its most enjoyable during the week or in the morning. The list of must-see sights includes the 13th-century Romanesque Riga Cathedral — the largest place of worship in the Baltic region — the Arsenal and the ornate House of the Blackheads, which was originally owned by a merchants’ guild and now serves as an art gallery and, on occasion, as a concert hall. The original 14th-century building was demolished after being bombed by the Germans in 1941, and the current edifice is a reconstruction built in time for Riga’s 800th birthday celebrations in 2001.

One of the symbols of Riga is the 1909 yellow Cat House, a peculiar hybrid of medieval architecture and Art Nouveau style, topped with two figurines of cats with arched backs on the building’s turrets. Local legend has it that the owner had the idea of placing the cats on the roof with their back ends facing the house of the Great Guild, whose members he despised.

For a drastic change of scenery, take a 15-minute tram ride in any direction from the center and you will find yourself doubting whether these depressed, abandoned-looking Soviet housing estates could possibly be part of the polished European Union.

In sharp contrast to these drab, drizzly districts, a half-hour train ride will take you to Majori — a glamorous village in the popular resort of Jurmala on the Baltic coast. It boasts pine-tree forests, a laid-back atmosphere and clean sandy shores perfect for strolling, sunbathing and cycling.
With the start of the dacha season, the doors to a whole new culinary world are opened.

With the arrival of summer, St. Petersburg residents flee the city in droves and head to their dachas for the season of gardening and barbequing. The first visit of the year to the dacha may be an unpleasant surprise, as owners are greeted by a forest of weeds. But experienced chefs advise adventurous culinary hands not to rush for the weed-killer: From a small sea of stinging nettles and fields of dandelions, delectable summer dishes and drinks can be created.

Those who are forced to hack their way through waist-high nettles before they can reach their front door should not despair. Following simple instructions, in just 35 minutes a healthy soup can be prepared from the nettles.

Boil half a liter of salted water in a pan, add in two peeled potatoes and simmer until the potatoes are soft. Take them out — do not pour away the water! — and mash them with two tablespoons of sour cream, put them back in the broth and simmer. In the meantime, fry an onion and a carrot for four minutes in vegetable oil, then add them to the pan. Now finely chop 100 grams of nettles, and douse them with boiling water. Put the nettles together with a sprinkling of parsley and dill into the soup, add one tablespoon of lemon juice, plus salt and pepper, and two minutes later the soup is ready.

Nettles contain many mineral nutrients and vitamins, including A, B and C, as well as iron, calcium and copper. In Scandinavian countries, mashed nettles are sometimes served as an accompaniment to meat.

Another natural plague dreaded by gardeners is dandelions, which cover swathes of land with their bright yellow flowers from the early summer. Loved by children for their seemingly miraculous transformation into balls of silver fluff, this weed can also delight adults when turned into a refreshing wine in autumn and winter.

Homemade wine requires several days to prepare and several months before it is ready to be drunk. According to chefs, dandelions should be picked in strong sunshine, preferably in the morning. Only the yellow petals are needed for the wine, so the first step is to remove them with a knife. Put one quart of dandelion petals in a large pan and add four liters of cold boiled water. Cover the pan and leave it for 24 hours. The next day is devoted to preparing the syrup. Dissolve 1.5 kilograms of sugar in half a liter of water and simmer gently. To check whether the syrup is ready, release a drop onto a smooth surface. If it does not run, the syrup is ready.

Bring the dandelion infusion to boiling point, allow it to cool and strain it through a sieve, removing the petals. Juice two lemons, and add the juice to the syrup, together with 100 grams of raisins, some lemon balm and dried lemon peel. Stir the mixture, cover with gauze and leave for a couple of days. After the first fermentation remove the lemon balm and peel. Pour the liquid with the raisins into a large bottle and put a rubber glove with a hole in one finger over the bottleneck. Leave the wine in a dark room. While the wine is fermenting, the glove will be erect and full of air. When fermentation stops (when the glove becomes limp), remove the sediment, bottle the wine and leave it in a dark place for three to six months.

When the weeds have been cleared and the garden is tidy, it’s time to have a barbeque. The dandelion wine may take time to prepare, but meat and fish can be cooked in minutes on a barbeque.

Clean two dorado fish, gut them and wash them thoroughly inside and out. Dry them with paper towels and rub them with a small amount of salt. Cut a lemon into thin slices and put two or three slices inside each fish, together with some thyme, then grease the fish with olive oil. Now prepare the barbeque. The fuel used gives a particular aroma to the food being grilled, so it’s important to choose the right wood. Pine trees are not suitable, as they give off too much gum. Birch or oak coal sold in briquettes or loose in packets are a good choice.

To avoid burning the food, grease the grill with some fat. Put the fish on the grill and roast it, turning it until it is ready. Even when the summer has given way to the melancholia of autumn, the memory of long, hot summer days can be recaptured with a glass of homemade dandelion wine.

In his novel “Dandelion wine,” Ray Bradbury wrote: “Dandelion wine. The words were summer on the tongue. The wine was summer caught and stoppered.”

Dorado stuffed with lemon and thyme and grilled on the barbeque.

Dandelion petals can be used to make a refreshing and unusual summer wine.
This summer’s most intriguing event is a concert by Regina Spektor, the Moscow-born singer-songwriter, who will perform in Russia for the first time. Spektor is currently on tour to promote her latest album "What We Saw from the Cheap Seats," released in late May. Stereoleto, Krestovsky Island

**AUGUST 23**
KORN, an American nu metal band from Bakersfield, California, will perform at Glavclub this summer. The band’s most recent studio album is "The Path of Totality," which came out in December. Glavclub’s summer stage, Krestovsky Island

**JULY 14**
This summer’s most intriguing event is a concert by Regina Spektor, the Moscow-born singer-songwriter, who will perform in Russia for the first time. Spektor is currently on tour to promote her latest album "What We Saw from the Cheap Seats," released in late May. Stereoleto, Krestovsky Island

**JULY 20**
Red Hot Chili Peppers, an American alternative rock band formed in Los Angeles, will headline this year’s Tuborg Greenfest. According to the band, its recent album "I’m With You" will shortly be followed up with 18 new songs, which will be released as 7” singles or downloads during the next six months. Petrovsky Stadium

**JULY 11**
Kaiser Chiefs, an indie rock band from Leeds, will come to St. Petersburg on the strength of "The Future Is Medieval," its fourth studio album. The band formed in 1996 and was inspired by New Wave and punk rock of the late 1970s and 1980s. Kosmonavt

**JUNE 30**
**NEW YOUNG PONY CLUB,** an English electronic band from London, will feature in Stereonight, Stereoleto’s all-night event, alongside LCMDF, Toro Y Moi, On-The-Go and others. Stereoleto, Krestovsky Island

**JULY 10**
**COLDIE,** an English electronic music artist, DJ, visual artist and actor, will perform at Glavclub’s new summer stage on Krestovsky Island. The concert will feature SP:MC, a London drum ‘n’ bass/dubstep MC. Glavclub’s summer stage, Krestovsky Island

**JUNE 24**
**HUGH LAURIE,** an English actor, comedian, writer and director, will give a musical performance in St. Petersburg. His first and so far only music album was last year’s blues recording called “Let Them Talk,” which features collaborations with artists including Tom Jones, Irma Thomas and Dr. John. Oktyabrsky Concert Hall

**JULY 30-JULY 1**
The Al McKay Allstars, performing on July 1, will headline the two-day Usadba Jazz festival. McKay, a former Earth, Wind & Fire guitarist, will come with a show called Earth, Wind & Fire Experience: Uri Caine Trio, Eli Yamin Blues Band, Eric Marienthal from the U.S. and British band The Herbaliser will also perform. Yelagin Island

**JULY 20**
**RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS,** an American alternative rock band formed in Los Angeles, will headline this year’s Tuborg Greenfest. According to the band, its recent album "I’m With You" will shortly be followed up with 18 new songs, which will be released as 7” singles or downloads during the next six months. Petrovsky Stadium

**JULY 12**
**DOT,** arguably Russia’s leading rock band, will headline "Till the Skies with Kindness," an annual outdoor one-day festival also featuring Alisa and Vyacheslav Butusov. Petrovsky Stadium

**AUGUST 9**
**MADONNA** will return to St. Petersburg as part of her tour in support of "MDNA," her twelfth studio album. The American singer has promised to speak against the St. Petersburg anti-gay law during her concert. Peterburgsky Sports and Concert Complex (SKK)

**JUNE 24**
The Norwegian electronic music duo Röyksopp will headline the first night of Stereoleto, a major summer series of music events. Stereoleto will take place on two stages, Seaside Stage and Club Stage, on Krestovsky Island. Stereoleto, Krestovsky Island

**BY SERGEY CHERNOV**
An English actor, comedian, writer and director, will give a musical performance in St. Petersburg. His first and so far only music album was last year’s blues recording called “Let Them Talk,” which features collaborations with artists including Tom Jones, Irma Thomas and Dr. John. Oktyabrsky Concert Hall

**JULY 13**
**COLDIE,** an English electronic music artist, DJ, visual artist and actor, will perform at Glavclub’s new summer stage on Krestovsky Island. The concert will feature SP:MC, a London drum ‘n’ bass/dubstep MC. Glavclub’s summer stage, Krestovsky Island

**JUNE 24**
Hugh Laurie, an English actor, comedian, writer and director, will give a musical performance in St. Petersburg. His first and so far only music album was last year’s blues recording called “Let Them Talk,” which features collaborations with artists including Tom Jones, Irma Thomas and Dr. John. Oktyabrsky Concert Hall

**JULY 11**
**KAISER CHIEFS,** an indie rock band from Leeds, will come to St. Petersburg on the strength of “The Future Is Medieval,” its fourth studio album. The band formed in 1996 and was inspired by New Wave and punk rock of the late 1970s and 1980s. Kosmonavt

**JUNE 30-JULY 1**
The Al McKay Allstars, performing on July 1, will headline the two-day Usadba Jazz festival. McKay, a former Earth, Wind & Fire guitarist, will come with a show called Earth, Wind & Fire Experience: Uri Caine Trio, Eli Yamin Blues Band, Eric Marienthal from the U.S. and British band The Herbaliser will also perform. Yelagin Island

**AUGUST 9**
**MADONNA** will return to St. Petersburg as part of her tour in support of "MDNA," her twelfth studio album. The American singer has promised to speak against the St. Petersburg anti-gay law during her concert. Peterburgsky Sports and Concert Complex (SKK)

**JUNE 30-JULY 1**
**THE AL MCKAY ALLSTARS,** performing on July 1, will headline the two-day Usadba Jazz festival. McKay, a former Earth, Wind & Fire guitarist, will come with a show called Earth, Wind & Fire Experience: Uri Caine Trio, Eli Yamin Blues Band, Eric Marienthal from the U.S. and British band The Herbaliser will also perform. Yelagin Island

**JULY 12**
**DOT,** arguably Russia’s leading rock band, will headline “Till the Skies with Kindness,” an annual outdoor one-day festival also featuring Alisa and Vyacheslav Butusov. Petrovsky Stadium

**AUGUST 23**
**KORN,** an American nu metal band from Bakersfield, California, will perform at Glavclub this summer. The band’s most recent studio album is "The Path of Totality," which came out in December. Glavclub’s summer stage, Krestovsky Island

**JUNE 30**
**NEW YOUNG PONY CLUB,** an English electronic band from London, will feature in Stereonight, Stereoleto’s all-night event, alongside LCMDF, Toro Y Moi, On-The-Go and others. Stereoleto, Krestovsky Island

**JUNE 24**
**HUGH LAURIE,** an English actor, comedian, writer and director, will give a musical performance in St. Petersburg. His first and so far only music album was last year’s blues recording called “Let Them Talk,” which features collaborations with artists including Tom Jones, Irma Thomas and Dr. John. Oktyabrsky Concert Hall

**JULY 13**
**COLDIE,** an English electronic music artist, DJ, visual artist and actor, will perform at Glavclub’s new summer stage on Krestovsky Island. The concert will feature SP:MC, a London drum ‘n’ bass/dubstep MC. Glavclub’s summer stage, Krestovsky Island

**JUNE 24**
Hugh Laurie, an English actor, comedian, writer and director, will give a musical performance in St. Petersburg. His first and so far only music album was last year’s blues recording called “Let Them Talk,” which features collaborations with artists including Tom Jones, Irma Thomas and Dr. John. Oktyabrsky Concert Hall

**JULY 11**
**KAISER CHIEFS,** an indie rock band from Leeds, will come to St. Petersburg on the strength of “The Future Is Medieval,” its fourth studio album. The band formed in 1996 and was inspired by New Wave and punk rock of the late 1970s and 1980s. Kosmonavt

**JUNE 30-JULY 1**
The Al McKay Allstars, performing on July 1, will headline the two-day Usadba Jazz festival. McKay, a former Earth, Wind & Fire guitarist, will come with a show called Earth, Wind & Fire Experience: Uri Caine Trio, Eli Yamin Blues Band, Eric Marienthal from the U.S. and British band The Herbaliser will also perform. Yelagin Island

**JULY 20**
**RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS,** an American alternative rock band formed in Los Angeles, will headline this year’s Tuborg Greenfest. According to the band, its recent album "I’m With You" will shortly be followed up with 18 new songs, which will be released as 7” singles or downloads during the next six months. Petrovsky Stadium

**JULY 12**
**DOT,** arguably Russia’s leading rock band, will headline “Till the Skies with Kindness,” an annual outdoor one-day festival also featuring Alisa and Vyacheslav Butusov. Petrovsky Stadium
Summer dining
An independent overview of the city’s eclectic restaurant scene.

BARBERY
10 Kamennostrovsky Prospekt.
Tel: 954 0022.
With an elegant, simple and stylish interior, Barberry is a hip and trendy place to unwind with a cocktail or two. The outdoor terrace is a great place to sit on warm days.

BAZAR
2 Konyshechnaya Ploschad.
Tel: 913 4545.
Bazar is a warm and inviting country-style eatery serving excellent Russian and Caucasian cuisine prepared with fresh local ingredients. It also boasts a small market selling fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy products and other locally produced farm goods.

BELINSKOOGO 6
6 Ulitsa Belinskogo. Tel: 273 6498.
With its low ceilings, arched windows and curtains, Belsinoogo 6 offers its guests a friendly eating experience and a variety of lunch deals — perfect for a quick escape to Barcelona in the middle of a busy day.

BELUGA
16 Naberezhnaya Makarova.
Tel: 921 7278.
A new, laid-back eatery serving French, Italian and Russian cuisine, with an interior reminiscent of an old mill and an atmosphere conducive to lingering over lunch.

BOHEMIA
16 Teatralnaya Ploschad.
Tel: 921 3464.
Bohemia is the latest open-kitchen eatery to open in the shadow of the Mariinsky Theater. The restaurant serves up home-style European and Russian cuisine in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

CROCODILE
18 Galernaya Ulitsa. Tel: 314 9437.
Crocodile is an old favorite on the local dining scene, with its breezy interior and superb yet reasonably priced Russian and European cuisine.

DANS LE NOIR?
4 Birzhevoi Pereulok. Tel: 335 2212.
Explore your senses by diving into the dark. Dans Le Noir invites guests to eat in complete darkness. Not for the faint-hearted, a visit to this restaurant will help any guest to completely re-evaluate their approach to food.

FRANCESCA
47 Suworovsry Prospekt. Tel: 273 0532.
An impeccable two-story restaurant with a spacious sidewalk terrace, pleasantly cluttered interior and cheerful, chattering clientele. Everything at Francesca is laudably fresh, and prices at this Gipsy Project establishment range from reasonable to seductive.

FRIDA
57 Ulitsa Chaikovskogo. Tel: 272 6816.
This vegetarian restaurant serving an impressive variety of international cuisine offers a charming, kooky culinary experience.

KHOCHU KHARCHO
39/41 Sadovaya Ulitsa. Tel: 310 3236.
Specializing in West Georgian cuisine, this new Gipsy Project establishment located on the 1st floor of a former chocolate factory is eager to please at any time of the day or night. Its summer terrace is now open.

KING PONG
16 Bolshaya Morskaya Ulitsa.
Tel: 315 8256.
The menu at King Pong may be pure-Asian, but the atmosphere is distinctly that of a cozy, intimate restaurant and bar. The latter resembles a miniature oceanarium, with mouth-watering seafood, on the one hand, curry and oysters on the other. Be warned! The prices are astronomical.

LA MAREE
34 Suworovsry Prospekt. Tel: 719 8383.
La Maree is both a high-end fish restaurant and a “fish boutique.” The latter resembles a mini-marine aquarium, with mouth-watering seafood, on the one hand, curry and oysters on the other. Be warned! The prices are astronomical.

LITTLE ITALY
10 Italianskaya Ulitsa. Tel: 571 2350.
A new eatery serving authentic Italian cuisine, with an atmosphere to match and a pleasantly Italian-themed interior, as well as a compact sidewalk terrace.

MAKARONNIKI
Arena-Hall business center, 16 Prospekt Dobrolyubova. Tel: 677 6088.
There’s a relaxed feeling of youth and vitality here that you won’t find in the city’s other rooftop restaurants. The spacious terrace is one of the city’s most appealing, complete with hammocks and sun loungers.

MANSARDA
Quattro Corti business center, 3-5 Pochtamtskaya Ulitsa.
Tel: 956 9666. Mansarda offers spectacular views out onto St. Isaac’s Cathedral and across the entire city, and some very good European and Asian cuisine, though it is sadly one of Gipsy’s more snobbish establishments.

MESTO
59 Kromerskaya Ulitsa. Tel: 405 8799.
Despite its new location, this reincarnation of an established St. Petersburg hot spot does not
fall to deliver. Inspired by the likes of British chef and restaurateur Marco Pierre White, Mesto is making the most of the recent renaissance in British cuisine. It's "pub grub," but not as we know it.

**MIX IN ST. PETERSBURG**
6 Voznesensky Prospekt.
Tel: 610 6161.
The restaurant of the year-old W hotel operates under the name of top-flight chef Alain Ducasse. The portions here are modest, but the European cuisine served up is simply spectacular.

**RADA & K VEGETARIAN ESTABLISHMENT**
36 Gorokhovaya Ulitsa.
Tel: 385 1226.
Filling a niche in the scant, local vegetarian scene, the canteen-style Rada & K offers dishes from Eastern Europe and India. The adjoining store next door sells Indian spices and pulses and ingredients for making Chinese, Korean, Thai and Japanese dishes.

**RENAISSANCE ST. PETERSBURG BALTIC HOTEL**
4 Pochtamtskaya Ulitsa. Tel: 380 4000.
The sixth-floor summer terrace of this centrally located hotel offers superb views of St. Isaac’s Cathedral along with excellent Mediterranean cuisine.

**ROMANOV BAR & GRILL**
22/24 Nevsky Prospekt. Tel: 315 3786.
This restaurant facing Kazansky Cathedral has a summer terrace with soft sofas. The menu offers Russian, European and Japanese cuisine, and in keeping with the restaurant’s name, many dishes are flame-grilled.

**RUSSIAN VODKA ROOM NO. 1**
4 Konnovyarskaya Ulitsa.
Tel: 570 6422.
From the people responsible for the excellent Stroganoff Steak House just up the road, this restaurant and-vodka museum in one is brilliant at giving newcomers to the city an (expensive) introduction to the delights of Russian cuisine. A sidewalk terrace is open during the summer months.

**SERAFINO**
5 Prospekt Chernyshevskogo.
Tel: 275 2779.
A stylish upmarket Italian restaurant with a rustic interior and a pleasant sidewalk terrace, Serafino offers a vast menu that does not disappoint connoisseurs of Italian cuisine. The restaurant appears to include every dish that Italy has ever offered the world.

**SOUP AND WINE**
24 Kazansky Prospekt. Tel: 312 7690.
This small, convenient and reasonably priced eatery is ideal for a light lunch. The assortment of snacks and light meals are perfect for a busy day's sightseeing or afternoon's work.

**STROGANOFF STEAK HOUSE**
4 Konnovyarskaya Ulitsa.
Tel: 314 5514.
This spacious and comfortable restaurant is a mainstay of the St. Petersburg restaurant scene, offering an unsurprisingly meat-based menu. It’s not cheap, but the Stroganoff burger and large range of steaks come highly recommended. The summer terrace is now open.

**TANDOOR**
2 Voznesensky Prospekt. Tel: 312 3886, 312 5310.
Tandoor offers a comprehensive range of delicacies from the subcontinent in a pleasantly kitsch setting, with very friendly service. It’s not the cheapest, but it’s worth every kopeck.

Bohemia serves home-style Russian and European dishes amid a cozy, congenial setting.

---

To feel the pulse of the city
Stay in the heart of it

**Book 21+ days in advance and save 20% on your stay**

*Offer is valid for reservations made for stays on or before 31 December 2012. More information and conditions at www.radissonblu.com*