One CITY - Two RELIGIONS (4 days/3 nights)

1 day

**Arrival to Kazan. Meeting at the airport, transfer to the hotel. Check-in**

**Bus tour "One city - two religions" (3 hours)**

During the excursion you will see such a famous and interesting mosques and churches to visit a mosque Marjani, near the Kaban lake Mosque of "1000 anniversary of the adoption of Islam," Apanaevskaya Mosque, Soltan Mosque, Azimov Mosque, Saint Peter and Paul Cathedral, Holy Cross Church, Tikhvin Church. History of the spread of Islam and Christianity in the territory of modern Tatarstan.

**Lunch with tatar national food (1 hour)**

**Walking tour along Bauman Street. Time for buying souvenirs (2 hours)**

The old Bauman Street is the main pedestrian thoroughfare in Kazan. It is the city’s tourist quarter, complete with restaurants, fountains, street sculptures, small trades and souvenir shops. You can listen to street musicians, get yourself a portrait, have ice-cream in summer and a hot broth with local specialty “echpochmak” pies in winter. Theatre and dance performances are common, and street musicians and artists are a permanent fixture. Day and night, the Bauman Street is full of people, sounds and colours.

*Optional excursion «Night Kazan» for extra payment*

2 day

**Breakfast at the hotel**
**Trip to Great Bolgar (UNESCO World Heritage Site) 11 hours**
A thousand years ago on a tall shore high above the Volga, 180 kilometres away from Kazan, there sat the buzzing capital of the thriving and formidable Volga Bolgar Civilization. Here the ancestors of Tatars adopted Islam in 922, and in the 13th century Bolgar became the capital of the Golden Horde. A UNESCO World Heritage site, Bolgar remains a sacred pilgrimage place. A visitor can admire the Cathedral Mosque, with its Big Minaret, North and East Mausoleums, Khan's Tomb, built in the 13-14th centuries. So important is Bolgar for modern Tatarstan that it continues to be developed, keeping it alive and present in the Tatarstan culture. In recent years an elegant White Mosque was added and a Commemoration Monument to celebrate the adoption of Islam. It hosts the world’s largest Quran with pages 2-metres tall and a solid malachite cover weighing 800 kilograms.

Lunch at Chingizkhan restaurant
Continuation of the excursion
Transfer to Kazan
Free time

3 day

Breakfast at the hotel

Bus excursion to the Monastery of Raifa

The monastery is located on the shores of Lake Raifa in a picturesque forest, part of the Volga-Kama Preserve, established in 1960. There is a holy spring in the monastery complex.

Tour to the Island-Town of Sviyazhsk (6 hours)
Here you can enjoy famous Borsch – a rich soup in Black Russian bread - the most popular dish in many Russian families, as well as many Eastern and Central European countries. Watching of the historical battles, archery range, photo session in the Medieval armour, visit to the craftmenhouse.
Pushkin’s fairy tales come to life on the Sviyazhsk river island only 60 km from Kazan. Initially a fortress built by Ivan the Terrible to seize Kazan in 16th century, Sviyazhsk has grown through the ages into a quintessential place of Russian culture. The island with less than 300 residents has 37 cultural sights, two of them are currently being considered for UNESCO World Heritage status.

Traditional Russian lunch in Traktir Café (1 hour)
Transfer to Kazan
Free time

4 day

Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out

Walking tour “Mosques of Kazan” (2 hours)

Excursion on the Old-Tatar settlement is opportunity to see Kazan in style of 18-19 centuries. It is a unique ensemble of national Tatar architecture. Here every house is connected with the outstanding Tatar names for the history and culture. During the tour, the history of the Old Tatar settlement and the review showing the Blue mosque (the Fourth Cathedral), Burnaevskaya mosque (the Third Cathedral). Visit the most beautiful pre-revolutionary mosques of the city, "Azimov”.

Transfer to the airport

Departure

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**NOT valid during holidays, high seasons**

Included services:

- Accommodation in the chosen hotel (3 nights on standard twin room, breakfast is included)
- English speaking guide
- Transport services according to the programme 6-14 pax by Mercedes Sprinter, 16-30 pax – bus
- Meals (daily breakfasts, 3 lunches)
- Entrance tickets to the Kremlin, Island-town Sviyazhsk Museum, Great Bolgar