

# Russian attractions Peterhof



# History

Peterhof - "Peter's Court", from 1944 to 1997 - Petrodvorets) - a municipal formation in the Petrodvorets district of the city of federal significance in St. Petersburg. Located on the southern shore of the Gulf of Finland. A major tourist, scientific and educational center to the west of St. Petersburg, 29 km by rail. Railway stations New Peterhof, Stary Peterhof, University platform on the Baltic line of the October Railway. Pier on the Gulf of Finland.

Peterhof was founded in 1710 as an imperial country residence, the status of the city - since 1762. In the city there is a monument of world architecture and palace and park art of the XVIII-XIX centuries the museum-reserve "Peterhof". Naukograd since 2005.

The city of Petergof is divided in two zones, the New Petergof and the old Petergof. The major landmarks are located within the limits of New Petergof, between the Petergof street and the Ropshinsky highway.







## The Palaces, Fountains, and Gardens

### Grand Peterhof Palace and the Grand Cascade

The dominant natural feature of Peterhof Grand Palace is a sixteen-meter-high bluff lying less than a hundred meters from the shore. The so-called Lower Gardens (*Nizhny Sad*), at 1.02 square kilometers (0.4 sq mi) comprising the better part of the palace complex land area, are confined between this bluff and the shore, stretching east and west for roughly 200 meters (656 ft). The majority of Peterhof's fountains are contained here, as are several small palaces and outbuildings. East of the Lower Gardens lies the Alexandria Park with 19th-century Gothic Revival structures such as the Kapella.

Atop the bluff, near the middle of the Lower Gardens, stands the Grand Palace (*Bolshoy Dvorets*). To the south of it are the comparatively small Upper Gardens (*Verhny Sad*). Upon the bluff's face below the Palace is the Grand Cascade (*Bolshoy Kaskad*). This and the Grand Palace are the centerpiece of the entire complex. At its foot begins the Sea Channel (*Morskoy Kanal*), one of the most extensive waterworks of the Baroque period, which bisects the Lower Gardens.