

5. TRAVEL SPECIALS

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NEW Bed & Breakfast in St. Petersburg (Submitted by Silvia Bogle)

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This comfortable, newly-renovated and spacious B+B is close to Nevky Prospekt and a ten-minute walk from the train station if you arrive from Moscow. Don't be put off by the dark entryway in this turn-of-the-century historic building. We all know what beauty can hide behind a mean looking Russian staircase...

There are four quiet and large private double rooms. Two rooms share one bathroom with shower. Even though I don't go to St. Petersburg to watch TV, all rooms are equipped with satellite TV.

What I liked about it very much, we were able to make our own breakfast in this very neat and practical kitchen. The fridge is stuffed with eggs, ham, cheese, breads, juices, etc. and you just help yourself at any time. Guests can make coffee, tea or cook anytime in the kitchen.

It is absolutely clean, bright, and Nils, the owner, was able to bring some of the famous German Gemütlichkeit into the designs of the whole place. Nils is a very friendly German, who lives with his Russian wife and children at another address. So when you visit his B& B you have to let him know your arrival time in advance or call him when you arrive in Moscow.

I stayed with my sister and brother-in-law in one room (two double beds) and it was in no way inconvenient to share a bathroom with two American ladies.

Nils and his wife will also help with theater and museum tickets, with registration, guided tours etc.

The price of the room was very reasonable - but what we enjoyed the most was the little restaurant right across the street. Natascha serves home-cooked Russian meals all day till nine and her prices are so cheap, you will want to see my receipts of the bill to believe me.

The first evening, after walking around St. Pete's all day, being whooped we ordered the following: 3 Borschts; 3 main meals consisting of meat, potatoes, peas; three blinis; and 5 large beers. THIS IS NOT A MISPRINT: 404. No, not dollars! RUBELS!!!

The food was good and the waitress served it so fast, we must have looked famished. We never even bothered with another restaurant after that.

My first trip to St. Pete was a complete success and now that I found a home away from home I will return to Nils' Bed and Breakfast. I can highly recommend it and if you have any more questions, just call me, Silvia, at 935-79-13. E-mail: silviabogle@yahoo.com