

# **QR-guide «Up on the Nevsky prospect»**

**by Alexey Kholov**

1. **Nevsky Prospect** is the main street in the city of St. Petersburg, named after the 13th-century Russian prince Alexander Nevsky. The avenue runs from the Admiralty to the Alexander Nevsky Lavra. The life of the avenue was described by Nikolai Gogol in his story «Nevsky Prospect». Fyodor Dostoevsky often employed the Nevksy Prospekt as a setting within his works, such as «Crime and Punishment» and «The Double».





2. **Tikhvin Cemetery** is located at the Alexander Nevsky Monastery. Some of the notables buried here are: The composers of the «Moguchaya kuchka», Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Mikhail Glinka, Arkhip Kuindzhi, Marius Petipa, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, Anton Rubinstein, Vladimir Stasov, Pyotr Tchaikovsky.

**3. The Alexandrinsky Theatre.** Since 1832, the theatre has occupied an Empire-style building that Carlo Rossi designed. The premieres of plays have been performed at the stage of the Alexandrinsky, including plays by Alexander Griboyedov, Alexander Ostrovsky and Anton Chekhov. Famous directors who have staged work there include Vsevolod Meyerhold, Grigory Kozintsev, Georgy Tovstonogov.



4. **St. Petersburg Philharmonia** was established in 1802. The building of the Philharmonia was completed 1839. Franz Liszt, Hector Berlioz, Richard Wagner, Claude Debussy, Richard Strauss, Sergey Rachmaninoff, Sergey Prokofiev, Alexander Scriabin, Gustav Mahler, Anton Rubinstein, Arnold Schoenberg, Igor Stravinsky, Bela Bartok performed here. In this hall in blockade time was presented Seventh symphony of Dmitry Shostakovich.



**5. The Stray Dog Cafe** was a meeting place for writers and poets between 1911 and 1915. The Acmeist poets gathered there to discuss theories of literature, give poetry readings, and perform theatre. They considered themselves «stray dogs» shunted aside by proper aristocratic society, which led to the name. Poets at the Stray Dog Cafe included Anna Akhmatova, her husband Nikolay Gumilyov, Velimir Khlebnikov, Vladimir Mayakovsky, Marina Tsvetaeva, Boris Pasternak, Sergey Esenin, Osip Mandelstam and Alexander Blok.





**6. St. Michael's Castle.** Castle was built as a residence for Emperor Paul I. It was named after St. Michael, the patron saint of the Royal family. The castle looks different from each side, as the architects used motifs of various architectural styles such as French Classicism, Italian Renaissance and Gothic. One of the legends of the Mikhailovsky castle is connected with the color of its walls: according to one version, it was chosen in honor of the glove of the Emperor's favorite Anna Gagarina (Lopukhina).

**7. The church of St Isaac's** was ordered by Tsar Alexander I and was the fourth consecutive church standing at this place. A specially appointed commission examined several designs, including that of the french architect Auguste de Montferrand. The cathedral took 40 years to construct, under Montferrand's direction, from 1818 to 1858.



**8. Palace Square** is the central city square of St Petersburg and of

the former Russian Empire. The earliest and most celebrated building on the square the baroque Winter Palace. Many significant events took place there, including the Bloody Sunday massacre and parts of the October Revolution of 1917. Palace square was and remains the place of military parades.



**9. Neva River.** On 16 May 1703 the city of St. Petersburg was founded in the mouth of Neva and became capital of Russia in 1712. Neva became the central part of the city. It was cleaned, intersected with canals and enclosed with embankments. In the early 1760s works started to cover it in granite and to build bridges across Neva and its canals and tributaries.





**10. The Peter and Paul Cathedral** is located in the Peter and Paul Fortress. The cathedral's bell tower is the world's tallest Orthodox bell tower. The bell tower with spire is the dominant feature of this cathedral and the fortress. It is an architectural symbol, an important part of its shape and of the Peter and Paul Fortress.

**The end...**

**And this is for you!**

