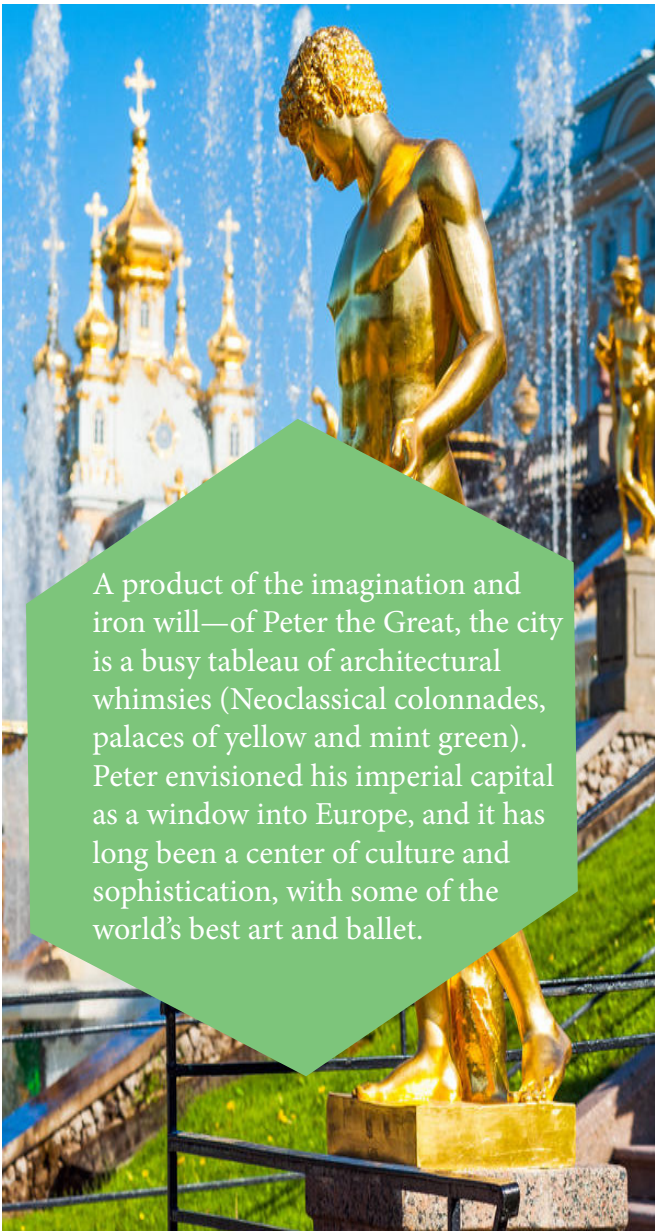
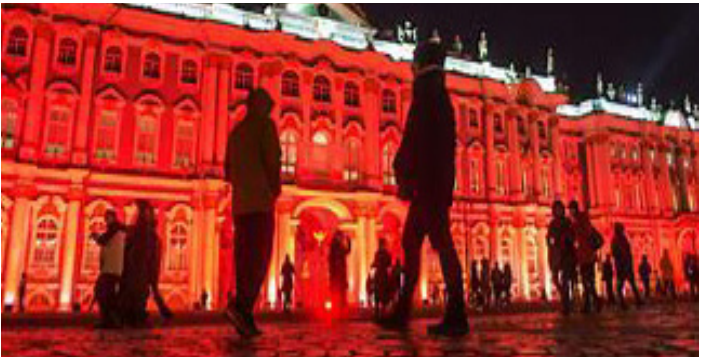


# ST. PETERSBURG

The Venice of the North



On the Neva River, Saint Petersburg is the second largest city in Russia and arguably its most breathtaking.



A product of the imagination and iron will—of Peter the Great, the city is a busy tableau of architectural whimsies (Neoclassical colonnades, palaces of yellow and mint green). Peter envisioned his imperial capital as a window into Europe, and it has long been a center of culture and sophistication, with some of the world's best art and ballet.

The sheer grandeur and history of Russia's imperial capital never fail to amaze, but this is also a city with a revolutionary spirit.