



Una Voce Russia invites all faithful Catholics
to participate in the

IV St. Olaf Pilgrimage

on July 25–29, 2016.

Destination: Novgorod!



Our pilgrimage includes Holy Mass in the extraordinary form of the Roman Rite and Divine Liturgy in Slavo-Byzantine Rite (Greek-Catholic), two days of walking in prayer and two days of intensive spiritual preparation, interesting lectures, brotherly intercourse of Western- and Eastern-rite Catholics, and veneration of Saint Vladimir and Saint Olaf.

The pilgrims are to arrive to **Staraya Russa** early in the morning on July 25.

Reaching Staraya Russa:

- ✓ From Moscow: Train 010A “Pskov” from Leningradsky Railway Station, departure 20:23 on the previous day, arrival to Staraya Russa at 04:08.
- ✓ From St. Petersburg: Train to Dno or to Bologoye, and from there to Staraya Russa. The most preferable method is to take train 261Ch from Ladozhsky Railway Station to Bologoye, departure 20:36 on the previous day, arrive to Bologoye at 00:22, and take train 010A at 00:54 to Staraya Russa.
- ✓ From Novgorod: The most reasonable way is to take a bus from the Bus Station, departure 07:20, to Shimsk, and meet the rest of the pilgrims there.

On July 25th morning the pilgrims leave Staraya Russa by bus to the village of Shimsk (50 km) and from there they walk to the pilgrims camp, which makes the first walking day (about 30 km, can be done by transport).

The walkers’ baggage will be delivered to the camp by transport, as well as from the camp to Novgorod on the last day. Please pack compactly.

July 26 and 27: spiritual preparation and retreat will be arranged at the pilgrims camp in a nice and reasonably isolated location, with much prayer, liturgy, some talk and brotherly intercourse.

July 28 (day of St. Vladimir on the Slavo-Byzantine calendar): the last period of the pilgrims’ way to Novgorod starts, consisting of a long walk (about 35 km) undertaken in prayer. The pilgrims will also visit some old holy places on the shore of Lake Ilmen and then walk in procession down the streets of Novgorod City and into the Roman Catholic church, where the Divine Liturgy in Slavo-Byzantine rite will be celebrated in the honor of St. Vladimir and the icon of St. Olaf will be venerated.

The pilgrims will then spend a night in comfort in the rooms attached to the church and clean up after several ascetic days.

On July 29 morning a Holy Mass (Traditional Latin Rite) will be celebrated in the honor of St. Olaf. Then the pilgrims will be able to visit the old churches of Novgorod, including the famous Cathedral of St. Sophia.

Departure from Novgorod: To Moscow: train 042Ch “Ilmen” (departure 21:20, arrival at 05:15 on the next day) or train 213A (departure 00:50, arrival at 10:13 on the next day); to St. Petersburg: train 072Ya “Lastochka” (departure 18:10, arrival at 21:02).

Who and why

Saint Olaf of Norway (995 – 29 July 1030), King and Martyr, is one of the relatively few Roman Catholic saints who have been to the territory of modern Russia. While in exile, he spent some time in the city of Novgorod with his brother-in-law, Russian Prince Yaroslav the Wise. After his departure and martyrdom, St. Olaf became highly revered by both Russian and Western Christians of the Novgorod region. A venerated icon of St. Olaf consecrated by Pope Benedict XVI is kept in the Sts. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic parish of Novgorod.

Another saint important for this pilgrimage is St. Vladimir (c. 958 – 15 July 1015), Yaroslav's father, who Christianized Russians and whose feast in the Slavo-Byzantine Rite falls one day before St. Olaf's in the Latin Rite.

Just as the two saints belong to different Rites of the same Church, the St. Olaf Pilgrimage brings together Catholics of different Rites. The pilgrims will participate in celebrating the Divine Mysteries with ceremonies that both saints would have recognized as something familiar: the traditional Latin and Slavo-Byzantine liturgies.

Organizers

The pilgrimage is organized by Una Voce Russia with the blessing of Abp. Paolo Pezzi, Archbishop Metropolitan of the Archdiocese of Mother of God in Moscow. At the destination, the pilgrimage is hosted by the Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Novgorod.

Who can participate

Every Catholic (as an individual or as a part of a group) physically fit to walk 25 km (16 miles) a day is welcome to participate in the pilgrimage. Minors under 18 years old must be accompanied by parents or other adults who are legally responsible for them. Catechumens and those in process of preparation for converting to the Catholic Church are treated as Catholics. Non-Catholics may also apply but will be considered individually.

Costs

Participants shall have to pay for the Russian visa and their obligatory medical insurance, as well as for the travel to Staraya Russa and return travel from Novgorod.

All participants have to pay an arrangement fee. Its amount will be decided later, depending on the number of participants and other factors. We do not expect it to exceed 60 Euro. The organizers of the pilgrimage will provide modest breakfast (hot coffee/cocoa/tea and porridge or boiled rice), supper (hot soup), and drinking water. You might also want to bring your own dry rations to support yourself during the walk. The luggage will be transported between the camps on trucks that we hire. The arrangement fee also covers evacuation to Novgorod in case of urgent transportation needs (e.g. medical issues). Extremely tired walkers can be driven to the next stop or camp in our car.

How to apply

Please contact Una Voce Russia at info@unavoce.ru to apply. We need to know your:

- ✓ First and Last Name
- ✓ Nationality
- ✓ Sex
- ✓ Parish
- ✓ Birth Date and Year
- ✓ Languages that you speak
- ✓ Health Issues (if any)
- ✓ Probability of Coming, on a 1 to 5 scale (1 = “I might be interested to come”, 5 = “I will come for sure”).

Priests and religious, please identify yourself as such.

Those applying as organized groups, please provide the name for your group and indicate the group coordinator (preferably someone who could communicate in Russian or English).

Please remember that to enter Russia you need a valid travel passport and a visa! Applying for a visa in the Russian consulate in your country may require some time and should be done in good time before the trip.

Information for priests

If you are a priest, please identify yourself as such in your application. Please bring a cassock/habit and a surplice, and a violet stole for confessions.

Concelebrating is possible in the Slavo-Byzantine Divine Liturgies held on alternate days of the pilgrimage. There is no concelebration in the Traditional Latin Rite and we arrange for one “public” Latin Mass every other day. Therefore, you can celebrate your “private” Masses (in either form of the Roman Rite or another recognized rite that you use) before or after this public Mass.

www.unavoce.ru/olaf

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