



ALEXANDER BELENKY

The Winter Palace on the banks of the river Neva in St Petersburg was the residence of the rulers of Russia.



Dazzling works by Rembrandt.



The beautiful Main Staircase in the Winter Palace.



Works of art in the Room of the Spanish School.



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The green roof is part of the Winter Palace.

## 06 Roof over the treasures

➔ When Renaissance Restavratciya was awarded the contract to repair the roof of the Winter Palace in St Petersburg, Russia, it chose a new steel grade, Ruukki's Tin Smith Pro, to do the job.

"We wanted a particular coating and colour and Ruukki was the only supplier that had green Pural Matt RR 594 in its product portfolio," says department manager VALERY IVANOV.

Work originally started on repairing the roof of the historic Winter Palace in 2003, when Ruukki was involved with its machine seamed roofing products. Since 2011, Renaissance Restavratciya has continued strengthening the old roof structures and repairing the faults.

"Good formability is one of the biggest advantages of a Ruukki steel roof. Because the Tin Smith Pro grade keeps its shape well, not even changes in weather make the roof clank," explains Ivanov.

"Also the aesthetic aspect has been successful and the new roof is in perfect harmony with the Palace Square."

Built in the Russian Baroque style, the Winter Palace is the main building of the Hermitage, one of the world's finest art museums. Catherine the Great (1729–96) lived in the main building in winter. She amassed an extensive collection of art. Today, the collections contain more than three million works of art.

The sumptuous Hermitage collections include modern art and works by old masters such as **Leonardo da Vinci**, **Michelangelo** and **Raphael**. Some of the most popular rooms in the museum are those full of works by **Henri Matisse** and **Pablo Picasso**.

The Winter Palace, which is part of the enormous museum complex, was created by the Italian-born architect **Bartolomeo Rastrelli** and built in St Petersburg during 1754–1762.