

# SANKT PETERSBURG

by Michael Tummelhofer

## Historical background and goal

In 1703, Czar Peter the Great founded Saint Petersburg, which soon became known as "Paris of the East". The Winter Palace, the Hermitage, the Church of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, and many other buildings even today beckon visitors from all over the world. But Saint Petersburg was only a part of his numerous activities. Peter reformed the whole of the Russian Empire and brought it from the Middle Ages to a par with Europe of that time. To accomplish this, he needed a new administration and brought the aristocrats under his control. This was also a golden time for the workers as their skills were much needed to reform and build the new Russia. The players will take important roles in the building of SAINT PETERSBURG.

The players acquire workers, buildings, and aristocrats and place them in their play areas. These earn the players money, points, or both during the game. For the aristocrats, players can earn additional points at the end of the game. The player who is best able to manage his meager money supply and buy the right things at the right times, will win the game.

## Contents

382 rubles



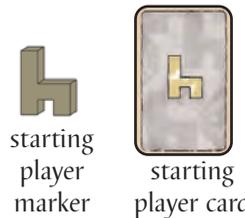
14      14      12      12      8      back side

120 cards

31 workers



6      6      6      6      6      1      back side

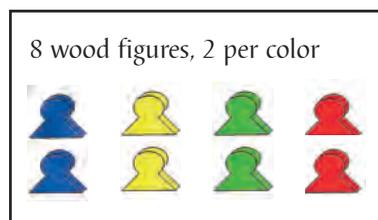


starting  
player  
marker      starting  
player  
card

28 buildings



5      5      3      3      3      2      1



8 wood figures, 2 per color



1      2      1      2      back side      starting  
player  
marker      starting  
player  
card

27 aristocrats



6      5      5      4      3      2      2      back side



starting  
player  
marker      starting  
player  
card

30 trading cards



10 of each for workers,  
buildings, and aristocrats      back side      starting  
player  
marker      starting  
player  
card



game  
board

## Preparation

- Place the **game board** in the middle of the table.
- Shuffle the **cards** by **each group** separately (workers, buildings, aristocrats, and trading cards). Place each group face down in a stack on the appropriate space on the board.
- Each player takes **25 rubles**. Place the remaining rubles in separate stacks by denomination next to the board (the bank). The players keep their money secret from others during the game and may never tell others how much they have.
- Each player takes the **2 figures in his color**. He places 1 figure on space 0 of the scoring track and the other figure in front of himself (his play area) to remind others of his color.
- One player shuffles the **4 starting player cards** and deals them:
  - 4 player game:** each player gets 1 card.
  - 3 player game:** the youngest player gets 2 cards, the others get 1 each.
  - 2 player game:** each player gets 2 cards.
- When all players have their starting player card(s), each takes the corresponding **starting player markers** and places them in his play area. Place the starting player cards back in the box; they are not used in the rest of the game.
- The oldest player is the **administrator**. He draws starting cards from the **workers stack** and places them face up in the **upper card row**: **4 players: 8 cards, 3 players: 6 cards, and 2 players: 4 cards.** Then, he turns the workers stack 90° on the player board (see above). The administrator's other duties in the game: he manages the money, places new cards, and moves the players' figures on the scoring track.
- The game begins with the first worker phase.

scoring track    points for the final scoring of aristocrats



Example: red at the beginning of the game.



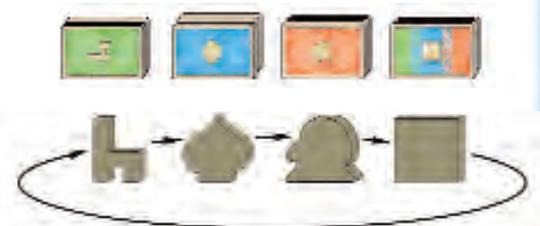
## Playing the game

During the game, players buy cards and place them in their play areas: workers, buildings, and aristocrats. All the cards cost the buying player money, but can also earn the player money (workers), victory points (buildings), or a bit of both (aristocrats). Players use the money earned to buy more cards and the victory points to win the game. SAINT PETERSBURG is played over several rounds (7-10).

Each round consists of 4 phases (always in the following order):

- the **worker** phase
- the **building** phase
- the **aristocrat** phase
- the **trading card** phase

Then, the players start the next round with the worker phase.



Each phase consists of the following (in the order shown):

- The actions:** the players acquire workers, buildings, and aristocrats. They play these on the table, add them to their hands, and play them from their hands to the table. **This is the main part of the phase.**
- The scoring:** the players score their workers **or** buildings **or** aristocrats.
- The new cards:** the administrator places new cards on the board.

All four phases play in this way, except for the trading card phase, where there is **no** scoring (see also page 5).

### 1. The actions

On a player's turn, he **must take 1 of the following 4 actions: either**

- buy:** 1 worker or 1 building or 1 aristocrat **or**
- add to his hand:** 1 worker or 1 building or 1 aristocrat **or**
- play from his hand:** 1 worker or 1 building or 1 aristocrat **or**
- pass**

### The 4 actions in detail:

#### • buy

The player buys 1 card, either 1 worker or 1 building or 1 aristocrat. Primarily, the workers earn the players money, the buildings earn the players points, and the aristocrats can earn the players both.

A player can buy a card from **either card row** on the board. When a player buys a card, he pays the **cost** to the bank, and **immediately** places the card **face up** in his play area. The players should group the cards in his play area with all workers together, all buildings together, and all aristocrats together.

*Note: obviously, players may only buy worker cards in the first worker phase as there are no other cards on the board. Soon, however, cards from the other groups will be available on the board.*

The cost of a card is always shown in the upper left.



The fur trapper costs 6 rubles.



#### • add to his hand

The player takes 1 card from either card row and adds it to his hand.

He does not pay for this card. A player can have **at most 3 cards** in his hand and keeps them secret from the others. At **game end**, each card in a player's hand scores **minus 5 points**.

#### • play from his hand

The player places 1 card from his hand face up in his play area. He now pays the cost of the card to the bank. He can play a card he has added to his hand earlier in this round or from a previous round.

#### • pass

A player must pass when he **cannot or chooses not** to take other actions.

*Note: a player, who has passed, may pass again or take a normal action (buy, add to his hand, or play from his hand) on his next turn. When passing, the player should clearly say "pass!", so the next player knows it is now his turn. He should do this even when he has already passed previously, as he may now choose to take an action.*

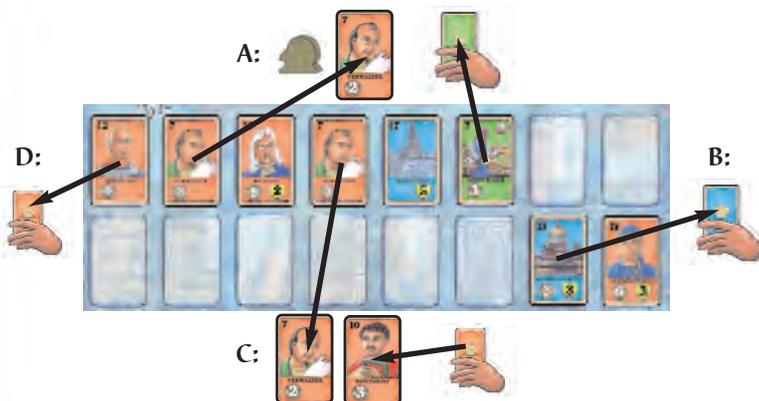
The starting player for a phase always takes the first action of the phase. For example, the first action in the **worker phase** is taken by the player with the **starting player marker for the worker**:



Next, the other players follow in clockwise order and each must always take one of the 4 allowed actions. After all players have taken an action, it is again the starting player's turn. He may take the same action as before or a different action as he chooses. As before, the others follow in clockwise order. **When all players pass in player order** (the first pass need not be the starting player), the actions are done and the phase moves to the scoring.



### Example for the complete play of an action part of a phase:



The players are in the aristocrat phase. **A** is the starting player. He begins the actions and buys an administrator. **B** has too little money to buy and passes. **C** buys the other administrator. **D** adds the secretary to his hand. **A** adds the ship builder to his hand. **B**, who previously passed, adds St Isaac's Cathedral to his hand. **C** had previously added a warehouse manager to his hand and now plays it, paying the cost. **D** passes, **A** passes, **B** passes, and **C** passes. All 4 players have now passed in player order. The actions for this phase are complete.

### Remember:

- A player can buy 1 card or add a card to his hand or play a card from his hand; otherwise, he must pass.
- A player can buy or add to his hand any of the cards on the board (upper or lower row) in any phase. He can, for example, buy a fur trapper in the building phase, if he wants and it is available.
- A player can play any card in his hand in any phase. He can, for example, play (and pay for) a shepherd in the aristocrat phase, if he wishes.

## 2. The scoring

What is scored? The players score **either** the workers **or** the buildings **or** the aristocrats that they have in their play areas. When are which cards scored?

**In the worker phase, the players score only their workers, in the building phase, they score only their buildings, and in the aristocrat phase, they score only their aristocrats.**

All cards of the appropriate group are scored, including those played in the current round and those played in previous rounds.

### What do the players earn during scoring?

The players earn **money or points or both** (or nothing, if a player has no cards of the kind being scored). The players get money earned from the bank. The players' figures move on the scoring track to note points earned. The administrator handles both.

*Note: to simplify the scoring, start with the starting player and move clockwise around the table.*



*In the building phase, the players score only the building cards.*



money



points



money and points

### Example for the scoring in an aristocrat phase:

We assume that these are the cards that player A has acquired in his play area so far in the game.



workers  
(are now  
**not** scored)



buildings  
(are now  
**not** scored)



aristocrats (are now scored)

12 rubles

1 point



A earns 12 rubles and 1 point.

In the same way, the other players score their aristocrat cards.

## 3. The new cards

During the actions, the players take cards from the board. At the end of each phase, the administrator adds cards to the board until there are a total of eight on the board (**regardless of the number of players - always 8!**).

To do this:

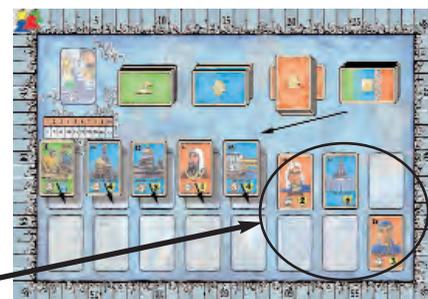
- He takes the new cards from the **next** card stack.
- He places the new cards only in the **upper** card row.
- He places cards so that in **both** card rows there are a total of **8 cards**.
- Finally, he turns the card stacks to indicate which phase just ended and which will start next.

### The game board after the actions, example page 3:



For the following trading card phase, the administrator must add 5 cards to the board. He draws 5 cards from the trading card stack and places them in the upper card row.

*Note: when the players buy or add cards to their hands, they can choose from any cards on the board (in either row). To better show the new cards, the administrator should first move the remaining cards to the right (but do not change rows!).*



After placing the new cards, the administrator turns the aristocrat stack back to match its place on the board and the trading card stack 90° from its place on the board as shown.

*Note: in this way, it is always clear which phase the game is in.*



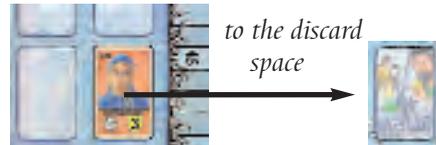
## The trading card phase and the end of the round

The trading card phase runs differently than the others (for descriptions of the trading cards, see page 7):

- In the trading card phase, there is no scoring. No player earns money or points. To emphasize this, there are no money or point symbols on the space for trading cards on the board. The players take actions in the trading card phase just like the other phases.

- After the actions, the administrator takes all remaining cards from the **lower card row** and places them on the **discard space** on the board. They are out of the game.

*Note: after the first round, there can be no cards in the lower row. It will only be in later rounds that cards may be in the lower row.*



- Then, he moves all the remaining cards from the **upper card row** to the lower card row.



*It is best for the administrator to put all the card together at the right side.*

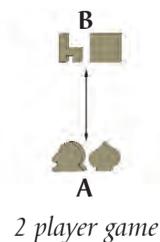
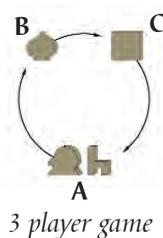
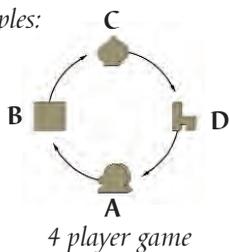
- Next, the administrator adds worker cards to the upper row, making a total of 8 cards on the board.

*Example: in the lower card row are the remaining 3 cards. In the upper card row are the 5 new cards.*



- The players give their **starting player markers** to their left neighbors, changing the starting players for the next round.

*Examples:*



The round is now ended. The next round begins as before with the worker phase. In this way, the game continues until game end.

## Game end and final scoring

When the administrator places the **last card** of a group (the last worker, the last building, the last aristocrat, or the last trading card) on the board, play continues through **all phases of this round**. After the round ends, the game ends and the final scoring follows. If there are not enough cards to fill 8 spaces, he places as many as there are.

## The final scoring

In the final scoring, each player earns points for the **aristocrats** in his play area and for the **money** he has left.

### **The points for the aristocrats:**

All **different aristocrats** earn points (same aristocrats count nothing).

How many points does a player earn?

The players can read the scores from the scoring table for aristocrats is on the game board.

### The points for the money:

For each full 10 rubles, a player earns 1 point.

### Minus points:

For each card a player still has in his hand, he scores -5 points (-5, -10, -15, or -20 (with warehouse)).

Example of a final scoring:



Red has 6 different aristocrats in his play area. He earns 21 points for them. For his two warehouse managers, he earns nothing. For his 17 rubles, he earns 1 point. As he has no cards left in his hand, he has no minus points. Thus, red earns 22 points in the final scoring. He adds these to his previous total of 52 points.



Red ends the game with 74 points.

The player with the most points is the winner. If players tie, the one among them with the most money is the winner.

### Other important details: cost reduction

There are 4 possible ways to reduce the cost of a card:

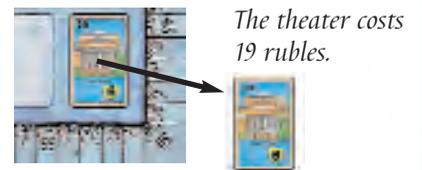
- When the player already has the **same card** (or several same cards) in his play area, he pays 1 less ruble for each card that is the same.

*Example: a market normally costs 5 rubles. A player with 2 markets in his play area would pay only 3 rubles. He buys the third market, pays 3 rubles, and now has 3 markets.*

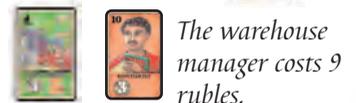


- When the player buys a card from the **lower card row**, he pays 1 ruble less than the normal cost.

*Example: the theater is in the lower card row. Normally, it costs 20 rubles, but a player can buy it for 19 rubles because it is in the lower row.*



- When the player has a **gold smelter** in his play area, he pays 1 ruble less for **each red card** he buys (after he has the gold smelter).



- When a player has a **carpenter workshop** in his play area, he pays 1 ruble less for **each blue card** he buys after he has it.



All cost reductions are **cumulative**.



*The theater costs 17 rubles.*

*Example:*

*A player buys the theater from the lower card row (-1 ruble), he already has 1 theater in his play area (-1 ruble), and he has the carpenter workshop (all blue cards -1 ruble). He pays 20 rubles minus 3 rubles = 17 rubles.*

A player can never take money when the cost is less than 0. In fact, he can never pay just 0. **A player must always pay at least 1 ruble to buy a card, even when its cost is 0 or less!**



*Example:*

*The player already has 3 lumberjacks. For the 1st lumberjack, he paid 3 rubles. For the 2nd, he paid 2 rubles. For the 3rd, he paid 1 ruble. If he later wants to buy a 4th or 5th lumberjack, he must pay 1 ruble for each.*

## The trading cards



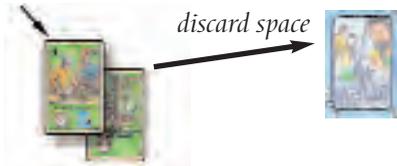
The stack of trading cards has 10 workers, 10 buildings, and 10 aristocrats. To distinguish them, they have all three colors on their backs and the color of one of the 3 groups on the front. The front side makes it clear which group the card belongs to. It also has the cost and reward numbers in the appropriate places.

When a player buys a trading card or places a trading card from his hand in his play area, he must do the following:

- **He must displace an already placed card of the same color from his play area.** He cannot simply place a trading card in his play area as he does the other cards. He places the displaced card on the discard space.

*Example: the player discards the lumberjack to place the carpenter workshop.*

- **Each blue** trading card can displace **any** already placed **building**. **Each red** trading card can displace **any** already placed **aristocrat**.
- With the green trading cards: a **carpenter workshop** can only displace a **lumberjack**, a **gold smelter** can only displace a **gold miner**, a **weaving mill** can only displace a **shepherd**, a **fur shop** can only displace a **fur trapper**, and a **wharf** can only displace a **ship builder**. Players can recognize the pairs by the **like symbols in the upper right**.
- A trading card cannot displace another trading card.

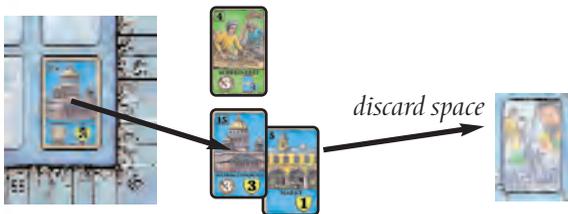


## What does a trading card cost?

- When the trading card is **more expensive** than the card it displaces, the player must pay the difference between the two.
- When the trading card is **the same or cheaper** than the card it displaces, the player must pay **1 ruble**.



All normal cost reductions apply to trading cards.



*The trade costs 8 rubles.*

**several special cards**

*Example: the player displaces the market with the St Isaac's Cathedral. The difference in cost is 10 rubles. The player takes the card from the lower card row (-1 ruble). He also has the carpenter workshop, saving him another ruble. Thus, he can subtract 2 rubles from the normal cost of 10 rubles and pay only 8 rubles. He places the market on the discard space.*

The player, with these cards in his play area, has the following advantages:

*The aristocrats love theater:*



When **scoring the buildings**, the player earns **1 ruble** for each **aristocrat** that he has in his play area.

*Unattractive job, but*



When **scoring the aristocrats**, the player earns **1 ruble** for each **worker** that he has in his play area.

*The virtual village pays for itself:*



The player **pays 2 rubles** when he buys/places the card. If he displaces the card with a trading card, it is worth **6 rubles**.

*Good, but dangerous:*



The player can have up to **4 cards in his hand**.

*Don't spend too much:*



Immediately **after** each scoring of buildings, the player can **buy up to 5 points**. Each point **costs 2 rubles**. (The player cannot "buy" 2 rubles for 1 point.)

*Czar Peter can do it all:*



He can be displaced by **any green trading card**.



*1 secure point or a good opportunity:*



The observatory is worth **1 point** in scoring if the player does **not** use the following: once, during the blue actions, he may draw the top-most card from the stack of his choice (it may not be the last card in the stack). **He must immediately either buy and place the card or add the card to his hand or discard the card**. In each case, he turns the observatory card over and will score no points for it. To begin the next round, he turns it face-up so it is again available for scoring or its special ability.

#### **SAINT PETERSBURG for 2 or 3 players:**

The game runs exactly as with 4 players, but with the following changes:

Before the first worker phase, the administrator places only 6 worker cards with 3 players and only 4 worker cards with 2 players. But, in the other phases, he **always adds to 8 cards**. For the specific starting player marker distribution, see page 2.

#### **Tips and tactics suggestions:**

- **In the first worker phase, each player should buy 2 workers!** A player with fewer than two workers will find himself running after his opponents with two. Workers have the best cost/reward ratio.
- **Expensive cards have higher reward ratios.** 1 point with a market costs 5 rubles, 1 point with a customs house costs only 4 rubles, etc. Thus, a player can do well to save money to buy more expensive cards later.
- In the first building phase, the question will arise: **should a player invest in an expensive building?** Such buildings always earn the player many points in the scoring of buildings. However, such a player will have little money for a while and that can be very dangerous.
- **Trading cards are mostly good.** Players should try to save some money for the trading card phase. But, players should be careful not to spend all their money in this phase as there is no scoring and no money gained in the phase. Without money, a player will be unable to buy the new worker cards that will be available in the first phase of the next round.
- When a player is faced with the decision to buy a card or add it to his hand, in addition to the points and/or money the card will earn the player, he should also consider the following: when a card is removed from the board, it makes room for a new card in the next phase. Does the player want this? When the player is the next starting player, he has little interest in leaving many **places for new cards**. However, a player sitting far from the starting player may want more new cards available.
- Adding a card to his hand is often important for a player. In this way, a player can hold the card for a later turn when he has the money to pay for it. Of course, it can be dangerous to speculate too much, as nothing is more painful than for a player to have a card in his hand at the end of game that he could not use and, thus, he earns minus points for the speculation.
- SAINT PETERSBURG is a game with **permanent money shortages**. This is good, as the game would be very boring if players always had plenty of money to spend on the cards.

#### **Special case: no cards are bought or added to players' hands.**

It can happen, that the players neither buy nor add cards to their hands from the board in a phase; they only pass or play cards from their hands. This does not change the play of the game. When all have passed, the players score as normal. In such a case, the administrator will add no new cards to the board. He will, however, turn the card stacks to indicate which phase the game is in. The game then continues with the next phase, until all have again passed. It could even rarely occur that no cards are again taken from the board. Again, the players continue as normal with scoring, but no new cards are again placed. Eventually, with scoring, players will acquire more money and begin buying again. After all, the only way for a player to win is to buy cards to place in his play area.



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# SANKT PETERSBURG the elements of the game

## Wood figures

 Each player takes two figures of one color. He places one on space 0 as his scoring marker and places the other in his player area.

## Starting player markers

Show which player begins each phase of the round. 

## Starting player cards

 Given randomly to players at game start to determine starting players for the phases.

## Rubles

To buy the cards. 

## Workers

  The green cards with the chair symbol on the back provide income for players. In the upper left of each card is the purchase price; the number in the coin is the income of the card.

## Discard stack for discarded cards

## Point table for the final scoring of aristocrats

**Card rows**  
At the beginning of each new phase, the players place new cards in the upper row so there are a total of 8 cards in both rows. At the end of the round, move un-bought cards from the upper to the lower row.



## Buildings

  The blue cards with the tower symbol on the back primarily provide victory point to the players. The cost is shown as above; the number in the shield is the number of victory points the player earns.

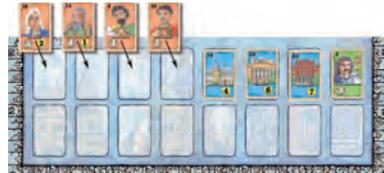
## Trading cards

    The tri-colored cards with square on the back and border on the cost are upgrade cards for like-colored cards.

## Aristocrats

   The orange cards with the head on the back provide a combination of income and victory points. Also, at game end, players earn extra points depending on the number of different aristocrats they have (see point table).

**Placing new cards, example 1:** after the previous phase, there are 4 cards remaining in the row. The administrator places 4 new cards from the next stack, so there are 8 total cards in the rows.



**Placing new cards, example 2:** after the previous phase, there are 2 cards in the lower row and 3 in the upper row. To fill the rows to 8 cards, the administrator places 3 cards in the upper row. At the end of the round, the administrator discards any cards left in the lower row.



# ST. PETERSBURG trading and special cards

The **trading cards** upgrade cards of the same color. Each replaces an appropriate card of the same color. The cost is the difference between the cost of the trading card and the card being upgraded\*, but with a minimum cost of a ruble. The upgraded card is placed on the discard stack.

When upgrading a **worker card**, the **ware symbol** in the upper right corners of both cards must match (e.g. the lumberjack cannot upgrade to the weaving mill).

<p>The carpenter workshop (1 card) reduces the owner's cost by 1 ruble whenever the player buys a blue card (including upgrades).</p>		<p>The weaving mill (2 cards) increases the income for the owner to 6 rubles.</p>		<p>The wharf (3 cards) increases the owner's income to 6 rubles <b>and</b> adds 1 victory point, as well.</p>
<p>The gold smelter (1 card) reduces the owner's cost by 1 ruble whenever the player buys an orange card (including upgrades).</p>		<p>The fur shop (3 cards) adds 2 victory points to the owners income of 3 gold.</p>		<p>* the carpenter workshop costs 1 ruble (4 minus 3).          the gold smelter costs 2 rubles (6 minus 4).          the weaving mill costs 3 rubles (8 minus 5).          the fur shop costs 4 rubles (10 minus 6).          the wharf costs 5 Rubel (12 minus 7).</p>

The 10 **building** trading cards represent famous buildings in St. Petersburg. There is just 1 of each card. Similarly, the 10 **aristocrat** trading cards represent a special position in the czar's administration. There is just 1 of each card.

## Descriptions of the special cards

<p>Immediately <b>after</b> each scoring of buildings, the player can <b>buy up to 5 points</b>. Each point <b>costs 2 rubles</b>. The player cannot "buy" 2 rubles for 1 point.</p>	<p>The observatory is worth <b>1 point</b> in scoring if the player does <b>not</b> use the following: once, during the blue actions, instead of his normal turn, he may draw the top-most card from the stack of his choice (it may not be the last card in the stack). <b>He must immediately either buy and place the card or add the card to his hand or discard the card.</b> In each case, he turns the observatory card over and will score no points for it. He may not upgrade a turned-over observatory. To begin the next round, he turns it face-up so it is again available for scoring or its special ability.</p>	<p>When <b>scoring the buildings</b>, the player earns <b>1 ruble</b> for each <b>aristocrat</b> that he has in his play area.</p>
<p>The player can have up to <b>4 cards in his hand</b>. If the player upgrades the warehouse, he need not immediately reduce his hand to 3 cards.</p>		<p>When <b>scoring the aristocrats</b>, the player earns <b>1 ruble</b> for each <b>worker</b> that he has in his play area.</p>
<p>The player <b>pays 2 rubles</b> when he buys/places the card. If he upgrades the card with a trading card, it is worth <b>6 rubles</b>.</p>		<p>Peter the Great - Czar, everyman, and universal genius - can be displaced by <b>any</b> green trading card.</p>