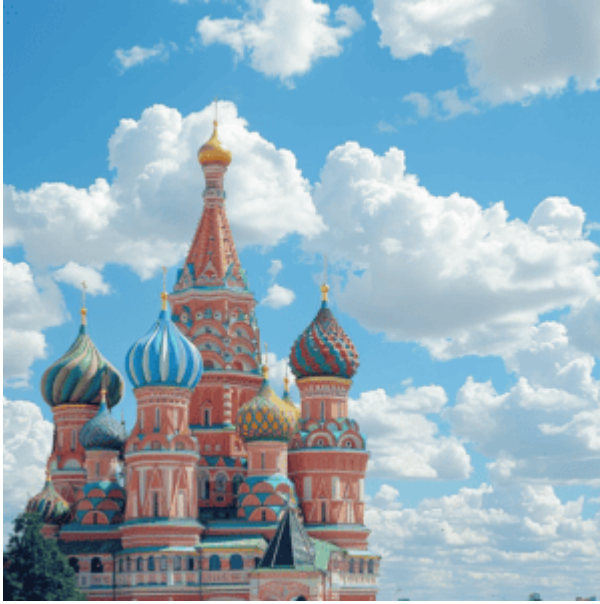


# Things To Do In Russia

Category: Travel



## There are plenty of amazing things to do while in Russia!

• **Visit Saint Basil's Cathedral**: This iconic cathedral is located in Moscow's Red Square and is a must-see for anyone visiting Russia. Its colorful, onion-shaped domes and unique architecture make it one of the most recognizable buildings in the country.

Saint [Basil's Cathedral](#), also known as the Cathedral of Vasily the Blessed, is one of the most iconic and beautiful buildings in Russia. It's located in Moscow's Red Square and was built between 1555 and 1561 by Ivan the Terrible to celebrate his military victory over the Khanate of Kazan.

The cathedral's unique design features nine colorful, onion-shaped domes, each representing one of the assaults on Kazan. The cathedral was designed by two Russian architects, Posnik and Barma, although there is a legend that it was built by an Italian architect who was blinded after its completion so that he could never create anything as beautiful again.

The interior of the cathedral is just as stunning as its exterior, with a maze-like layout featuring narrow corridors, winding staircases, and a series of chapels dedicated to various saints. The cathedral also contains a tomb with the remains of Saint Basil, a Russian holy fool who was revered for his piety and simplicity.

Throughout its [history](#), Saint Basil's Cathedral has undergone several renovations and restorations, including a major project in the 1950s that restored the cathedral to its original appearance. Today, it remains one of the most popular tourist attractions in Moscow and a symbol of Russia's rich cultural heritage.

• **Explore the Kremlin**: The Kremlin is a fortified complex in the heart of Moscow that serves as the official residence of the President of Russia. It's home to several cathedrals, palaces, and museums, and offers a fascinating glimpse into Russia's history and culture. The Moscow Kremlin is a fortified complex in the heart of Moscow that has played a central role in Russian

history for over 800 years.

The site of the Kremlin has been occupied since the 10th century, but its history as a government center began in 1156 when Prince Yuri Vladimirovich Dolgoruky founded the city of Moscow and built the first wooden walls of the Kremlin.

Over the centuries, the Kremlin has been expanded and modified by various rulers, including Ivan the Great, Ivan the Terrible, and Peter the Great. The complex has served as the official residence of the Russian Tsars, the headquarters of the [Russian Orthodox Church](#), and the center of the Soviet government.

The Kremlin has been the site of many historic events, including the crowning of Russian monarchs, the proclamation of the Russian Empire, and the establishment of the [Soviet Union](#). It has also been the scene of several battles and sieges, including the Polish-Muscovite War and the Battle of Moscow during World War II.

Today, the Moscow Kremlin is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a popular tourist destination. It's home to several cathedrals, palaces, and museums, including the Grand Kremlin Palace, the Armory Chamber, and the Kremlin Wall Necropolis. The complex is also the official residence of the President of Russia, making it a symbol of both Russia's rich history and its modern political power.

- **Experience the Bolshoi Theatre:** The Bolshoi Theatre is one of the most famous opera and ballet venues in the world. Attending a performance here is a must-do for anyone interested in the performing arts. The Bolshoi Theatre is one of the oldest and most prestigious ballet and opera companies in the world, with a rich history that dates back over 240 years.

It was founded in 1776 by Prince Pyotr Urusov and Michael Maddox, an English theatrical entrepreneur, after they received a royal "privilege" from Empress Catherine II to organize public entertainment in Moscow.

The Bolshoi Theatre began as a small, private theater in a converted house on Petrovka Street, but it quickly grew in popularity and prestige. Over the years, it has undergone several renovations and changes, including a major reconstruction in the early 20th century that transformed it into the grand, neoclassical building we know today.

Throughout its history, the Bolshoi Theatre has been a center of [Russian culture](#) and artistic excellence, attracting some of the most talented dancers, singers, and musicians from around the world. It has premiered many classic ballets and operas, including Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake" and "The Nutcracker," and Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet."

Today, the Bolshoi Theatre is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a beloved cultural institution in Russia.

- **Take a River Cruise:** A river cruise is a great way to see some of Russia's

most beautiful cities, including Moscow and [St. Petersburg](#). You'll get to enjoy stunning views of the cities' architecture and landscapes while relaxing on board. A Russian river cruise is a unique and unforgettable way to experience the beauty and culture of Russia. Here's what you can expect during a typical cruise:

- Scenic views: Russian river cruises typically [travel](#) along the Volga River, which offers stunning views of rolling hills, forests, and historic towns.
- Cultural experiences: Most cruises include stops at various ports, allowing you to explore local museums, churches, and markets, and to experience [traditional Russian culture](#).
- Onboard entertainment: Many river cruises offer onboard entertainment, such as live music, dance performances, and language lessons.
- Delicious [cuisine](#): You'll have the opportunity to sample traditional Russian cuisine, including dishes like borscht, beef stroganoff, and blini.
- Relaxation: A river cruise is a great way to relax and unwind, with plenty of time to take in the scenery, read a book, or simply watch the world go by.
- Guided excursions: Most cruises offer guided excursions at each port of call, allowing you to learn about the history and culture of the places you visit.
- Unique itineraries: There are many different river cruise itineraries to choose from, each offering a unique blend of sights and experiences. Some cruises focus on specific themes, such as art, history, or cuisine, while others offer a more comprehensive overview of Russian culture and history.

No matter which cruise you choose, you're sure to have an unforgettable experience [exploring the beauty and culture of Russia](#) from the comfort of a luxury river cruise ship.

• **Visit the Hermitage Museum:** The [Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg](#) is one of the largest and most prestigious museums in the world, with a rich history that spans over 250 years.

It's home to an extensive collection of art and cultural artifacts from around the world, and is a must-visit for anyone interested in history and culture.

Here's a brief overview of its history and what you can expect to experience during a visit:

- The museum was founded in 1764 by Empress Catherine the Great, who began collecting art for her personal collection.
- In 1852, the museum was opened to the public and quickly became one of the most important cultural institutions in Russia.
- The museum's collection grew rapidly over the years, with many important

works of art being added through donations, purchases, and archaeological excavations.

– Today, the museum's collection includes over three million items, including masterpieces by artists such as Leonardo da Vinci, Rembrandt, and Picasso.

– Visitors to the museum can explore over 350 rooms, each filled with priceless works of art and historical artifacts.

– The museum also hosts a variety of temporary exhibitions, concerts, and educational programs throughout the year.

– The museum's buildings are also impressive, with the Winter Palace being a highlight. This former residence of the Russian tsars is a stunning example of Baroque architecture and is a must-see for anyone visiting the museum.

Overall, a visit to the [State Hermitage Museum is a truly unforgettable experience](#) that offers a glimpse into Russia's rich cultural history and artistic heritage.

- **Go Skiing in the Caucasus Mountains:** The Caucasus Mountains offer some of the best skiing in Russia, with resorts like Krasnaya Polyana and Dombai attracting visitors from around the world.

- **Explore the Altai Mountains:** The Altai Mountains are a stunning mountain range in southern Siberia that offer incredible hiking and outdoor opportunities. You can explore traditional villages, go horseback riding, and take in breathtaking views of the surrounding landscape.

- **Visit Karelia:** [Karelia is a beautiful region in northwestern Russia](#) that's known for its lakes, rivers, and forests. It's a great destination for outdoor enthusiasts, with opportunities for hiking, fishing, and boating.

- **Attend a Traditional Russian Festival:** Russia is known for its vibrant festivals, with events like Maslenitsa (a spring festival) and Ivan Kupala (a summer solstice festival) offering a unique glimpse into Russian culture and traditions.

- **Take a Trip to the Black Sea:** The Black Sea coast is home to some of Russia's most popular beach resorts, including Sochi and Anapa. You can relax on the beach, swim in the sea, and explore the surrounding coastline. No matter what your interests are, you're sure to find something to love in Russia.