



Country Profile: Russia

Russia is a vast and diverse nation that continues to evolve politically, economically, and socially. Most Americans find their stay in Russia both exciting and rewarding, but travel and living conditions in Russia contrast sharply with those in the United States. Major urban centers show tremendous differences in economic development compared to rural areas. While good tourist facilities exist in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and some other large cities, they are not developed in most of Russia, and some of the goods and services taken for granted in other countries are not yet available. Russian visa requirements are highly complex, and U.S. citizens must take care that they do not unintentionally violate entry and exit regulations. Travel to the Caucasus region of Russia is dangerous. The Department of State recommends Americans not travel to Chechnya and adjoining areas.

Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on Russia for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Russia
Continent:	Europe
Capital City:	Moscow
Boundary Countries:	Azerbaijan 284 km, Belarus 959 km, China (southeast) 3,605 km, China (south) 40 km, Estonia 290 km, Finland 1,313 km, Georgia 723 km, Kazakhstan 6,846 km, North Korea 17.5 km, Latvia 292 km, Lithuania (Kaliningrad Oblast) 227 km, Mongolia 3,441 km, Norway 196 km, Poland (Kaliningrad Oblast) 432 km, Ukraine 1,576 km
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	MEDEM International Clinic & Hospital (St. Petersburg).
Main Cities:	Moscow, St. Petersburg, Omsk, Voronezh, Kazan, Perm, Mumansk.
Country Size:	17,075,200 sq km
Population:	142,893,540

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Russian, many minority languages.
Currency:	Russian ruble (RUR)
Predominant Religions:	Russian Orthodox 15-20%, Muslim 10-15%, other Christian 2% note: estimates are of practicing worshipers; Russia has large populations of non-practicing believers and non-believers, a legacy of over seven decades of Soviet rule.
National Holidays:	Russia Day, 12 June (1990)
Economic Status:	Russia is a vast and diverse nation that continues to evolve politically, economically and socially. Russia ended 2006 with its eighth straight year of growth, averaging 6.7% annually since the financial crisis of 1998.
Security:	Ground Forces (SV), Navy (VMF), Air Forces (VVS); Airborne Troops (VDV), Strategic Rocket Troops (RVSN), and Space Troops (KV) are independent "combat arms," not subordinate to any of the three branches.

US Presence:	<u>U.S. Embassy Moscow</u> Bolshoy Deviatinsky Pereulok No. 8 Moscow 121099 Russian Federation Phone: +7 (495) 728-5000 <u>U.S. Consulate General in Vladivostok</u> 32 Pushkinskaya St. Vladivostok 690001 Russian Federation Phone: +7 (423) 230 00 70 <u>U.S. Consulate General in Yekaterinburg</u> 15 Gogol Street, Yekaterinburg, 620151 Russia Phone: +7 (343) 379-3001
Major Airports:	Airports: 1,623, Airports w/paved runways: 616

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