

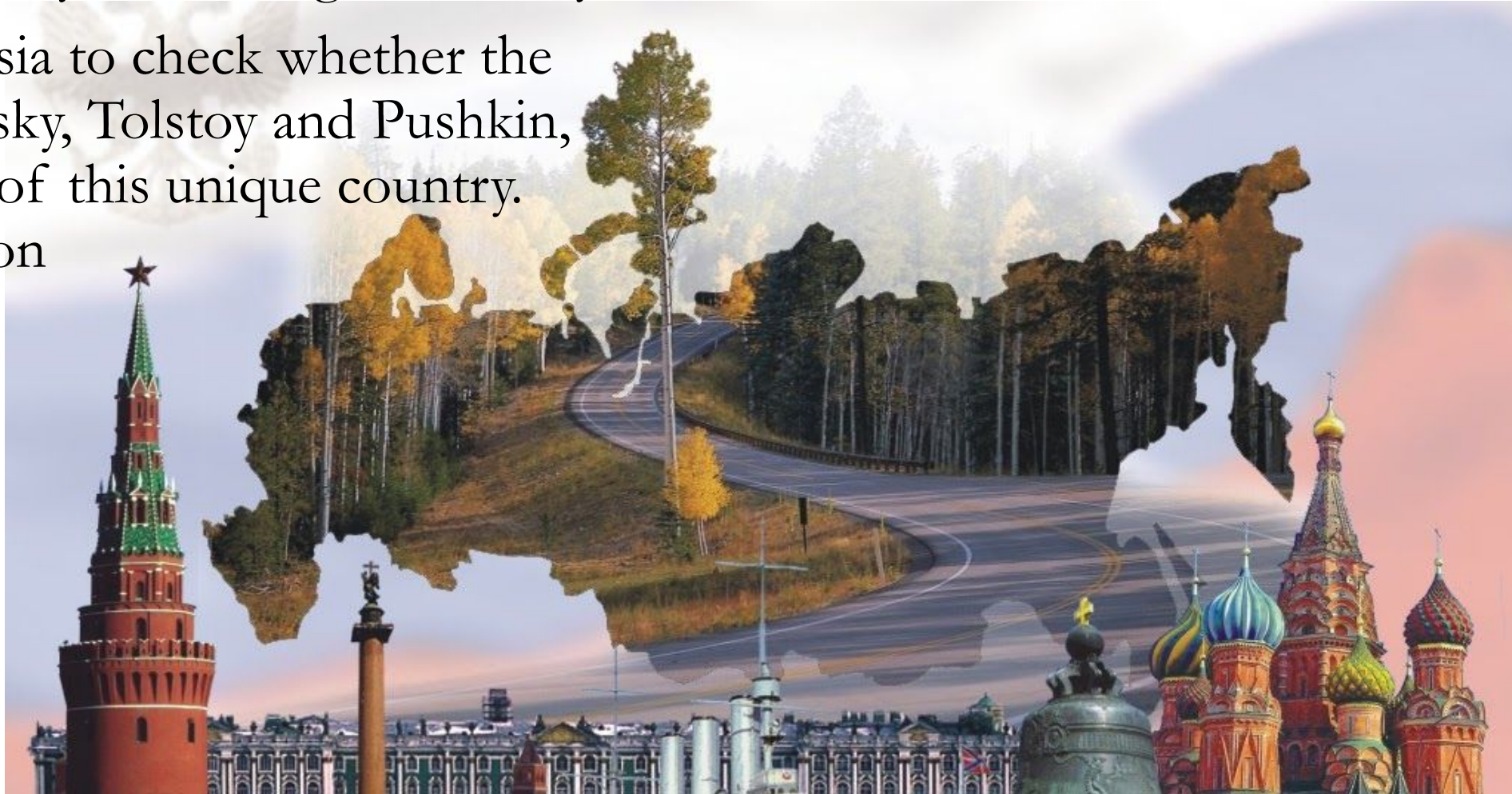


# THE MAIN ATTRACTIONS OF RUSSIA

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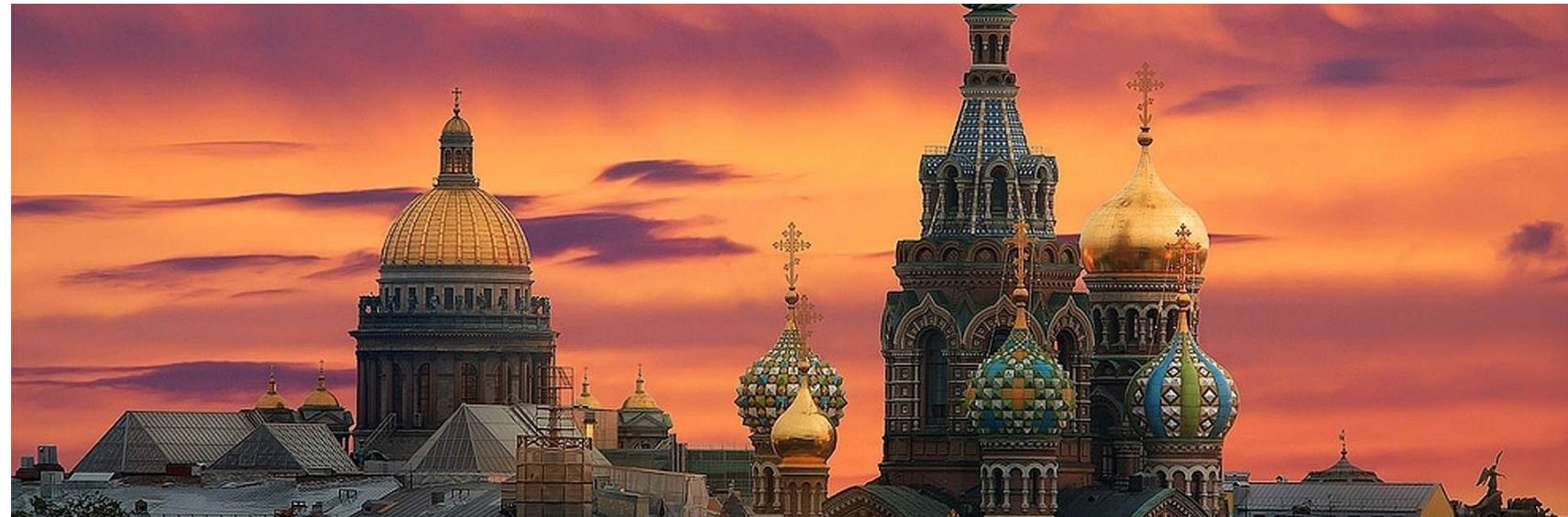
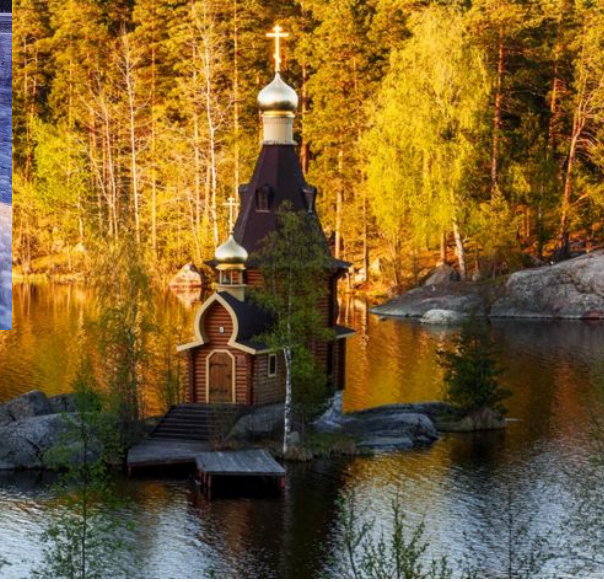
Russia is an incredible country. It's not even a country but a world in which there is everything from masterpieces of architecture and a huge number of museums, to the diverse natural attractions of mountain lakes, geysers, glaciers and more. Boggles the mind how all this survived for rich, wars and uprisings the history of the largest country in the world.

Foreigners go to Russia to check whether the truth wrote Dostoevsky, Tolstoy and Pushkin, and to see the sights of this unique country. Here a brief digression on the main one..



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# The TRANS-Siberian railway

Part of the longest Railways in the world, historical site TRANS-Siberian railway stretches from Miass (town in the Urals) to Vladivostok along the border with China and North Korea. It began to build in 1891, the year Tsar Alexander III and completed by his son Nicholas II V. 1916-m. Length of the oldest part of the TRANS — more than 7,000 km and the total length of the railway, connecting Moscow to Vladivostok is 9288 km.



Most travelers use the train for the night, there are sleeping places first, second and third grades, the most expensive coupe have separate showers and toilets.



# Elbrus

Mount Elbrus in height of 5642 meters belongs to the Caucasus range, located in the South of Russia. Elbrus included in the Seven summits — the highest mountains located on different continents. It is the highest mountain in Russia, and every year come here thousands of beginners and experienced climbers.



Earlier Elbrus was a volcano, but no eruption was not, therefore, considered that it was extinguished forever. To the level of 3800 meters and can be reached by cable car, which is very convenient. At the height of 4130 metres previously housed the hotel "Shelter of eleven", which burned down in 1998 year, and now the construction of the new building.



# The Valley of Geysers

Russian far East — a beautiful and unusual place. There are a lot of unique natural attractions, one of which is the Valley of Geysers on Kamchatka Peninsula — the second largest geyser field in the world.





The valley in 1941, the year he discovered the Russian scientist Tatyana Ustinova, and since then, here goes a lot of tourists and researchers. Valley included in the nature reserve, so there are certain rules for the organization of excursions. The best way to get to the Valley by helicopter, but it is very expensive, so better rent a helicopter company.

In 2007, the year in the Valley there was a mudslide, and then it's flooded, but in 2013 a new landslide destroyed the natural dam, and geysers scored again, they became even more.



# Kizhi island

This is one of the main attractions of the Karelia Republic located in the North-West region of Russia, bordering Finland and washed by the waters of the White sea. From the XIII-th century, there live the Karelians are a Finno-Ugric people, who found themselves at the crossroads of East and West.



Kizhi island is a real Museum under the open sky, nothing like the local wooden churches you won't find anywhere else in the world. Especially beautiful 37-foot Church of the Transfiguration with its 22 domes. The Church was founded in the beginning of the XVIII-th century and built entirely of wood. In addition to it there is a wooden peasant houses, windmills, bell towers and barns. Indigenous local people is very small, but they carefully keep their traditions — weaving from birch bark crafts, do embroidery, sew national clothes, knit lace and sing folk songs.



# The Cathedral of St. Sophia in Novgorod

The incredible beauty of the Church is the main Church of Novgorod, a very ancient Russian settlement. The Cathedral, in turn, is the oldest surviving Church built by the Slavs, the construction of which was completed in 1050, the year. Hagia Sophia is located on the territory of the Novgorod Kremlin, the height of the Church — almost 40 meters.



The temple is crowned with five cupolas and holds some of the ancient Orthodox shrines, such as the mother of God Icon "the Sign", which, according to legend, in 1170, the year saved Novgorod from attack by one of the princes. His army besieged the city, and when the people realized that can't fight back, they began to offer prayers to the Lord. On the third night of the siege Archbishop John heard the voice of, who commanded him to leave the Cathedral this icon, and follow the will of God. When one of the arrows of the besiegers hit the icon of the blessed virgin shed tears, after which the besieging army dropped their weapons and ran away.



# Lake Baikal

This ancient lake is the cleanest and deepest freshwater reservoir of the planet. It contains 20% of world reserves of fresh water, and the depth of the lake is 1642 meters.





Baikal was formed about 25 million years ago, and now he is among the most famous and beautiful bodies of water in the world. The lake is very large, so many locals call it the sea, and another common nickname — the Pearl of Siberia. If you decide to spend a few days here, you can stay at one of the tourist camps or rent a house, and for a very reasonable cost, and lovers of exotic holiday can pitch a tent in a picturesque place on the shore.



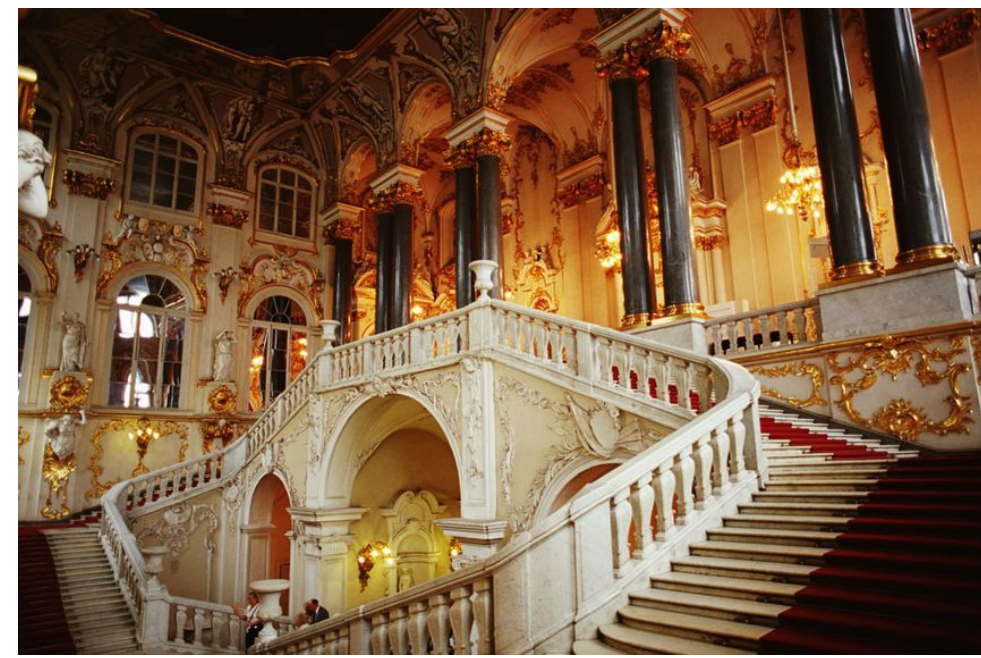
# The Hermitage

The main Treasury of Russia, in the literal and figurative sense of the word. Live — because in the halls and storerooms of the Museum houses a huge number of priceless paintings, jewelry, specimens, sculptures and ceramics, then there just no! Figuratively — because it reflects the culture and history of Russia and the world, that's a real book, or rather, the whole works, but instead of dry descriptions of the beautiful masterpieces you can see them firsthand, it is a pity, you can't.





The Museum began in 1764, the year as a collection of paintings of the Empress Catherine II the great, who spent large sums on the purchase of cloths of brilliant European artists. Most of the paintings hung in the halls of the famous Winter Palace (the favorite residence of Russian emperors), which then received the name "Hermitage" (in French it means "a secluded place, shelter").

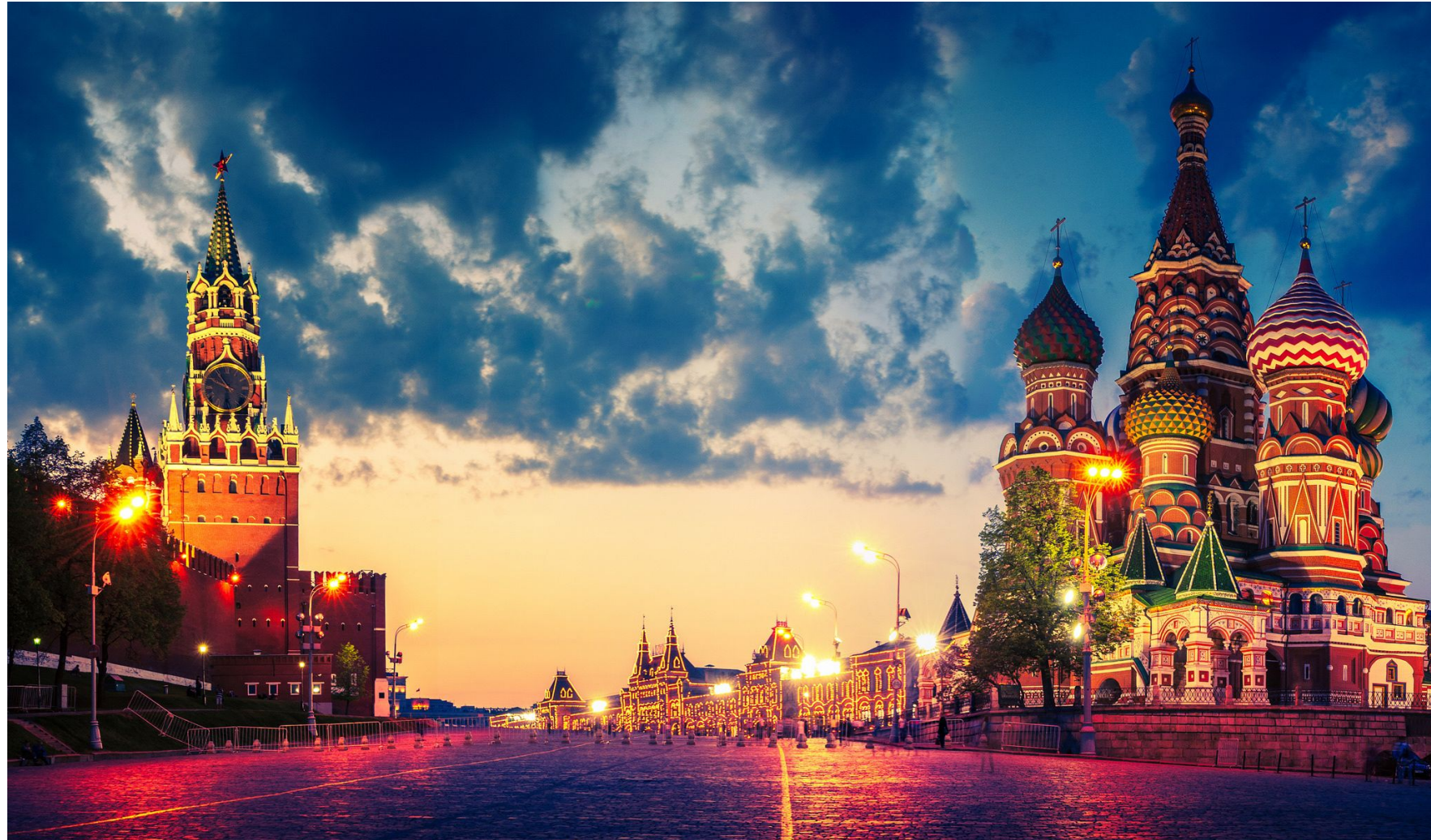


Initially, the masterpieces could not admire the ordinary people — the Museum was opened to the public in 1852. Anyone who has ever been to the Hermitage, you will remember it for a lifetime, because here there is absolutely incredible atmosphere, the luxury and splendour of the halls of the Palace will not leave anyone indifferent.



# Red square

All the major milestones of Russian history, as evidenced by historical monuments, the place of execution, where the Russian tsars executed troublemakers, criminals and rebels; the monument to Kuzma Minin and Dmitry Pozharsky, who led the militia at the beginning of the seventeenth century, to expel Moscow from the Polish invaders; the Lenin mausoleum and many more.



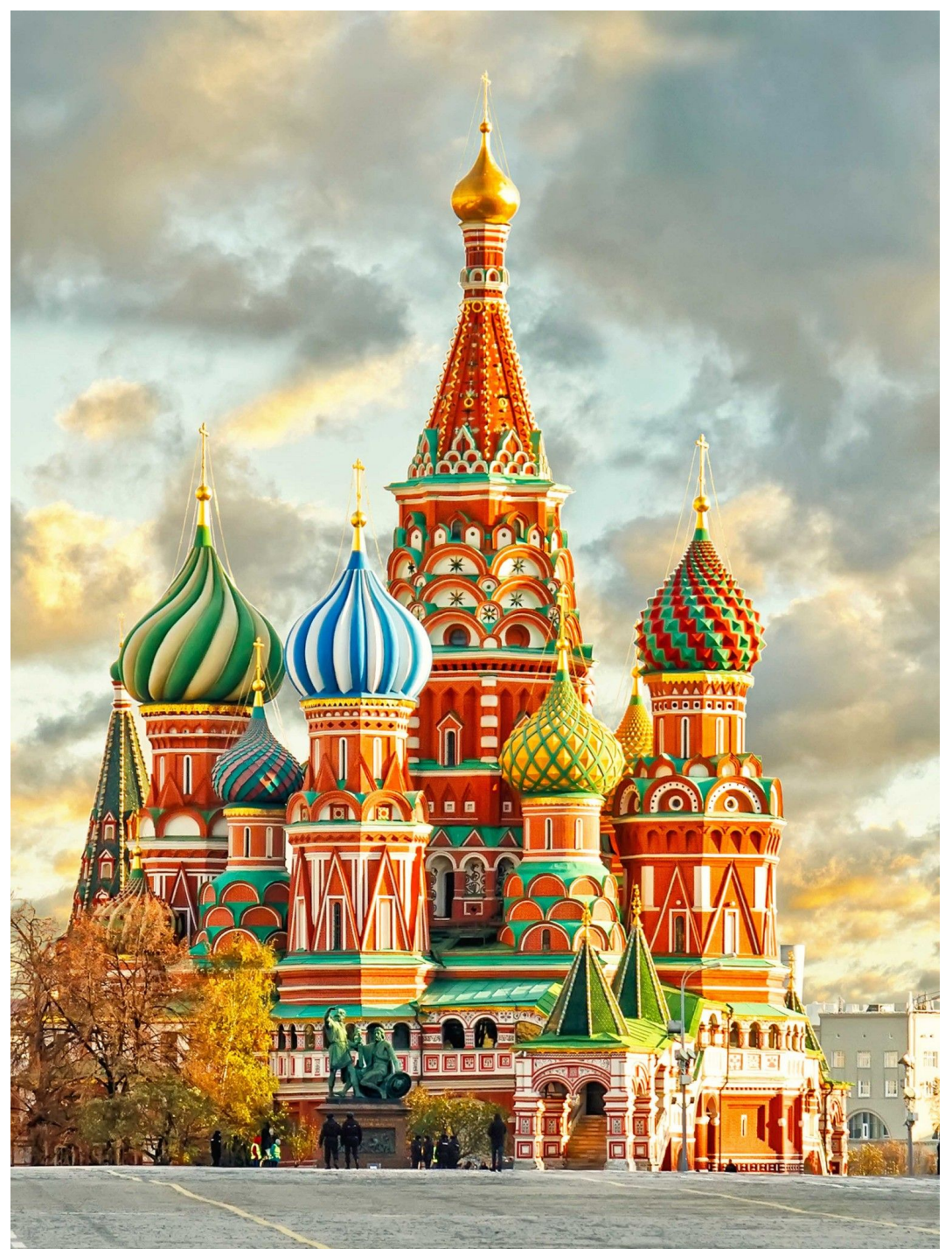
# The Moscow Kremlin

To describe the beauty of unique buildings and relics of the Moscow Kremlin, there are not enough words even the great and mighty Russian language. Located in the historic centre of Russia's capital, this architectural ensemble has long become the hallmark of the country.



# St. Basil's Cathedra

This unusual and amazingly beautiful temple is located in the center of Moscow, on red square. Description of the Cathedral you'll find in any tourist guide, but it's better to see with your own eyes, because to describe it is impossible. It is similar to a huge fire burning in the heart of the Russian capital: when its colorful domes of Moscow plays bright the sun is, with no comparable spectacle.





The Cathedral was built in 1555-1561-m years by order of Ivan IV the terrible. According to legend, after the completion of the cruel Russian Tsar ordered to blind the architects Barma and Postnik, so they were not able to build anything equal to this temple of beauty and grandeur. The king succeeded in any corner of the world there is nothing similar to this architectural masterpiece.

# Derbent

Unique city of the Russian Republic of Dagestan is not very popular among tourists but is worth visiting at least in order to walk down the streets of one of the oldest inhabited cities in the world. Derbent is known for its truly Caucasian hospitality and rich cultural traditions.

Among the main cultural and historical attractions of the Derbent wall, which is about 1.5 thousand years, and the Naryn-Kala, the ancient fortress that once faithfully served the defenders of the city. Here is the oldest in the Muslim temple, the Juma mosque, built in 733, the.



# Mountains Of Altai



If you think that the most beautiful mountains on Earth — the Alps, then you have not been to Altai. It is the highest mountain system in Siberia, in its territory converge the borders of Russia, China, Mongolia and Kazakhstan, and unlike the European mountain resorts, there is still not all the paths trampled the ubiquitous tourists.



In the Altai mountains are born the mighty and flowing Siberian rivers — the Ob, Irtysh and Yenisei, and in the stunning beauty of the valleys is inhabited by rare animals which are not found anywhere else. There are a lot of poachers, with whom the authorities are trying to fight, it is not very successful, mainly because the officials themselves are not seen in the destruction of the unique local fauna.





In the *Altai* since ancient times live original tribes and Nations, somewhat similar to Indians: they worship the gods in the images of animals and practiced pagan rituals.