

# The most famous unofficial symbols of Russia



In addition to the traditional symbols as the coat-of-arm, flag and anthem, each country has a number of other national symbols that denote country-specific history, culture and life.



# Red Square



- Red Square is the main square of our country. It hosts military parades, demonstrations and other important events. In the old days, Red Square looked different and it was a market place.
- Here on 7, November of 1941, the annual parade in honor of the 24th anniversary of the October revolution was held despite the active offensive of the Nazis.
- Here on 24 June 1945 there was a Victory Parade where victorious people carried Nazi banners and threw them at the foot of the Mausoleum as a sign of complete defeat of the invaders.



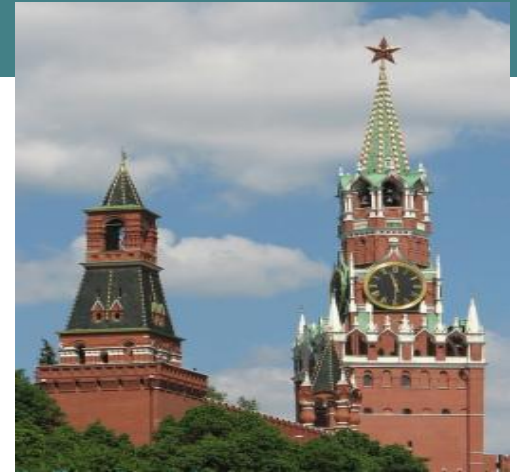
# The Kremlin

- Old Russian cities were started with the Kremlin which means the fortress. The Kremlin needed to protect the population from enemies, the Kremlin was the place where government and noble people lived. The site on which the Moscow Kremlin stands is called the Borovitsky hill.
- The Moscow Kremlin as we know it now, dates back to the late 15th century. It was built by Italian masters. The Kremlin has 20 towers, and each of them has its own history and destiny. The walls of the Kremlin is from 8 to 19 m, and their total length is 2235 m.



# THE KREMLIN CHIMES

- One of 20 towers, the Spasskaya, has a world famous clock-chimes.  
It's a huge astronomical clock: its face has a diameter of 6 m, and each digit is 72 cm high.
- Russia has changed a lot for the last century – the rulers, the system of government, but the clock on the Spasskaya tower still sounds, and it is difficult to imagine Russia without this symbol.



# WHITE BIRCH

- Russia is a country of birches. Birch has always been considered a symbol of Russia, symbol of spirituality, prosperity and longevity. The word "birch" came about the 7th century and comes from the verb "to protect".
- In pagan times the ancient Slavs worshiped the deity who was considered the mother of all spirits - The Keeper. The Keeper was a symbol of fertility, and the protector of the people.



# WHITE BIRCH

- A birch became a symbol of Russia, thanks to Sergey Esenin. In his poems, a birch was associated with his native land, with the homeland, with Russian Countryside.



« White birch»

Just below my window  
Stands a birch-tree white,  
Under snow in winter  
Gleaming silver bright  
On the fluffy  
branches  
Sparkling in a row  
Dangle pretty tassels  
Of the purest snow.  
There the birch in  
silence  
Slumbers all day long  
And the snow gleams brightly  
In the golden sun.  
And the dawn demurely  
Going on its rounds  
With a silver mantle  
Decks again the boughs.

# MATRYOSHKA



- Russian matryoshka is probably the most popular national souvenir. The toy got its name from the common name Matryona, or Matryoshka.
- At first these dolls depicted a simple country girls painted in bright sundresses and headscarves. It's a complex product carved from lime wood on a lathe.
- Russian nesting dolls are very famous abroad. This is one of the most popular Russian souvenirs.





# BEAR



- The bear is another unofficial symbol of Russia. This is one of the largest predators of the planet. It's just strong, powerful, cunning, and fierce. The apparent awkwardness can be extremely turned into agility. The bear is a symbol both of kindness and rage.
- Russians are compared with bears, on one hand, because of their slowness and kindness, and on the other hand because of their ability to stand up for themselves.
- Therefore the bear was chosen as a symbol of The Olympic Games in 1980.



# Troika



- Troika was a traditional Russian transport in which 3 horses drew sleighs, carts, or covered wagons. It was a well known lively fun and the fastest method of movement that caused vivid emotions .
- After all, everyone knows the phrase of N. V. Gogol: "What Russian does not love fast driving?".
- Troika has become a worthy symbol of Russia, representing Russian daring and mysterious soul.



# Russia - my great country

You will not grasp her  
with your mind  
Or cover with a common  
label,  
For Russia is one of a  
kind –  
Believe in her, if you are  
able...  
by Tyutchev



Thank you for attention!

