





Russia is my country. It is the biggest country in the world. Russia is situated on two continents: Europe and Asia.



The Urals (the Ural mountains) form a natural border between the continents.

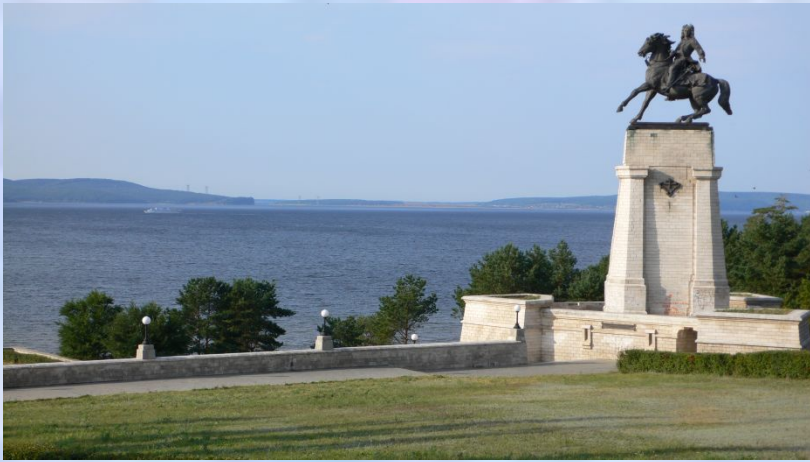


The Volga river is the longest river in Europe. It flows into the Caspian Sea.

There are many beautiful old towns – both big and small – on its banks. Practically all of them are interesting places, famous for their history.



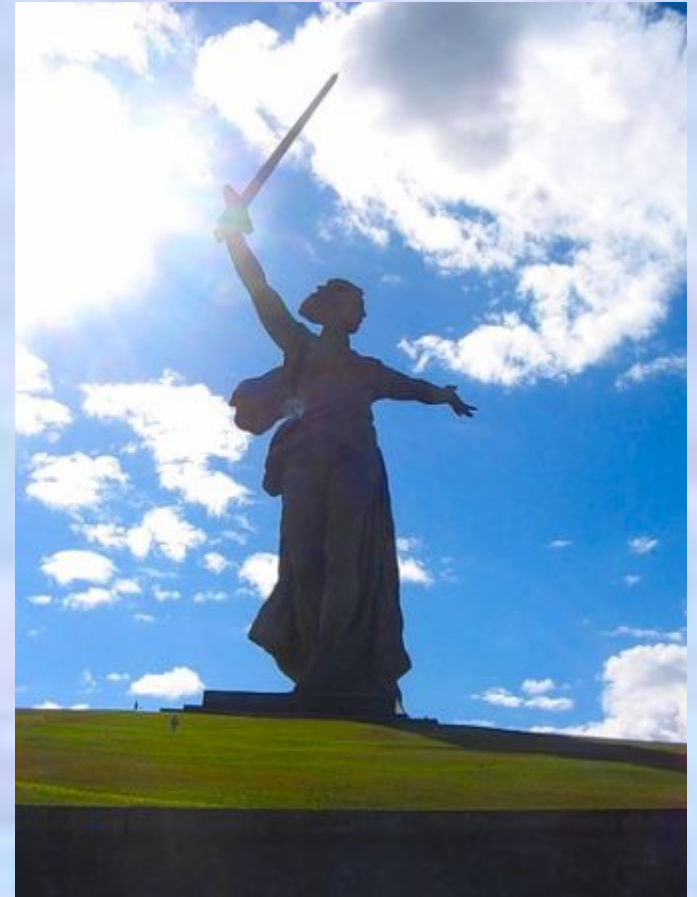
The Volga river



Togliatti



Ulyanovsk



Volgograd



The Baltic Sea

Seas and oceans wash Russia in the north, south, east and west. The Black Sea is in the South; the Baltic Sea is in the West



The Black Sea



The White Sea



Gisela Koell



The plant and animal worlds of my country are also very rich. There are a lot of different animals, birds and plants in our forests, fields and mountains.



One Russian symbol is the Russian national flag. This flag has three wide stripes on it. The stripes are white, blue and red. The upper stripe is white, the middle stripe is blue and the red stripe is at the bottom. These colours have always been symbolic in Russia: white – noble and sincere, blue – honest and devoted – devoted to friends, family and to the country. The red colour has always meant love and bravery.

Another symbol of Russia which all Russian people know and love is **the birch tree**. You can find these trees everywhere. People sing beautiful songs with poetic words about birch trees.



Russian people have always loved their country though life. Russian people have always been devoted to their **Motherland.**





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