

Seven wonders of Russia

Presentation

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2009-2010

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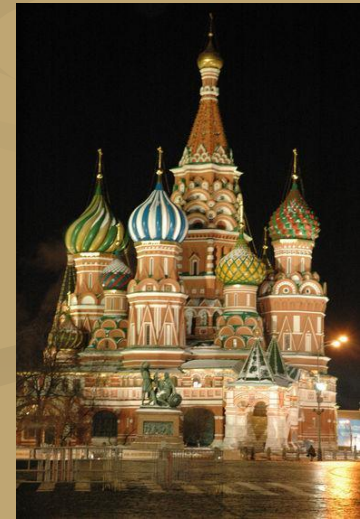
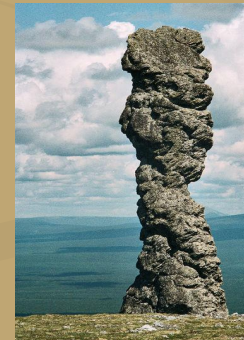
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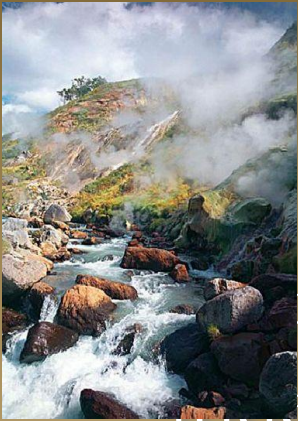
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- Last autumn, Rossiya TV, Mayak radio and the newspaper Izvestia announced a contest to determine the “Seven Wonders of Russia.”
- The competition to become one of Russia's seven wonders is over, and the results have been announced in Red Square in Moscow.



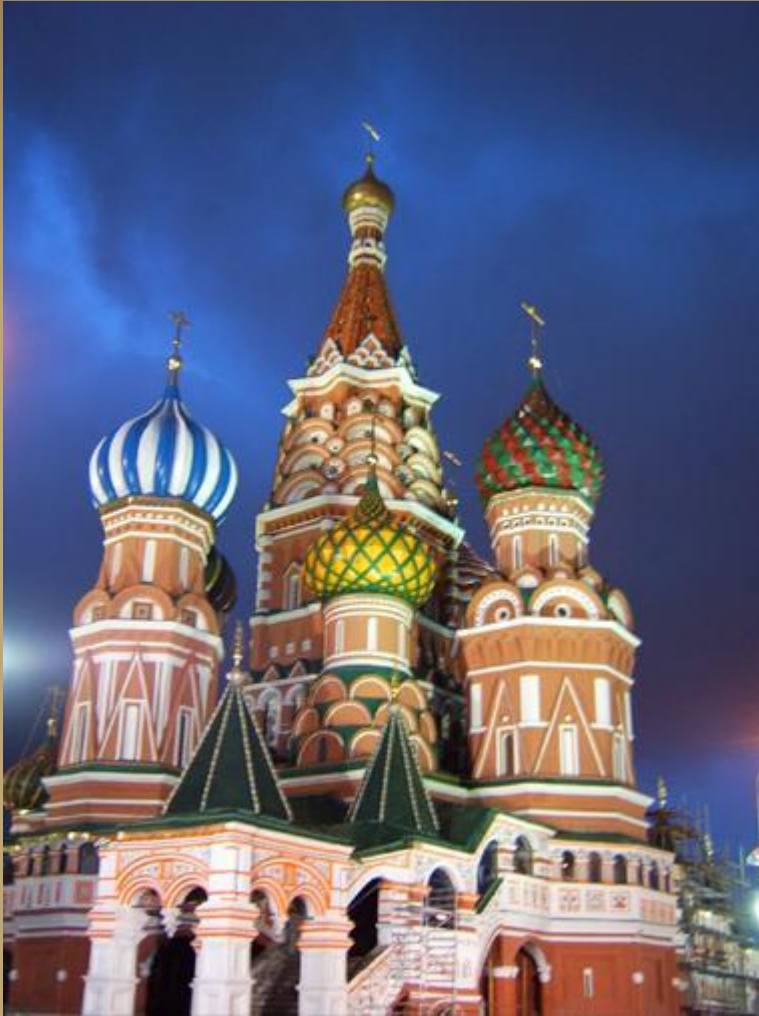


Geyser Valley

Gem of the Russian Far East contains hot mineral fountains clouded in vapor and iridescent rocks, all bathed in luscious greenery. The valley has more than 200 thermal springs, including 90 geysers, which spurt boiling water dozens of feet into the air.



St. Basil's Cathedral



The cathedral dominates Red Square and is Russia's most famous symbol. An unprecedented sample of ornate Byzantine- and Oriental-tinged Russian architecture, it was built in 1555-1561 under the orders of Tsar Ivan the Terrible to commemorate the conquest of the Kazan Khanate.

Mount Elbrus

- Standing at 5,642 meters, Mount Elbrus is the highest mountain in the Caucasus and the highest point in Russia. Set near the border with Georgia, Mount Elbrus is a popular tourist destination and many attempt to climb it, especially during the summer. Up to 100 people try to reach Elbrus peak every day.



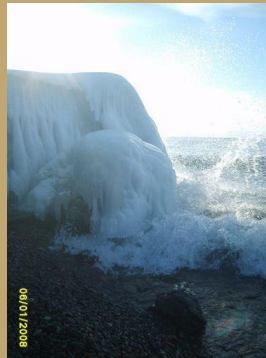
Rock Pillars



In pagan times, these erosion remnants on the Man-Pupu-Ner Plateau (870 miles northeast of Moscow) were worshipped by the local Mansi tribe for their fantastic shapes, and are still known as Mansi Idols today.

Lake Baikal

- The deepest lake in the world (5,370 feet) was formed 25 to 30 million years ago. It has an area of 12,162 square miles, as large as Denmark, Belgium or The Netherlands, and accounts for 22% of the world's fresh water.

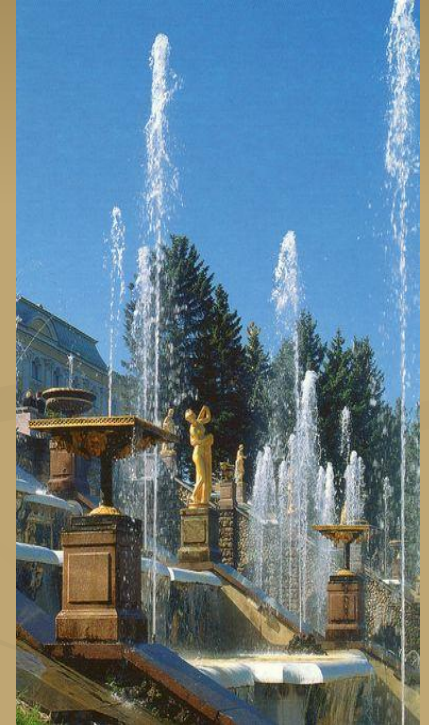


- Over 1,085 species of plants and 1,550 species of animals live in Baikal Lake and between 80-90 percent of them are endemic to this place.

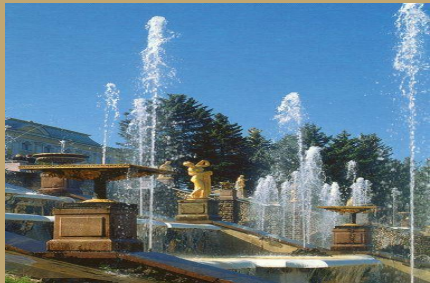
Peterhof



- Often referred to as “the Russian Versailles” the palace and park of Peterhof are one of Saint Petersburg’s most popular attractions. Versailles was indeed Peter the Great’s inspiration when he decided to build an imperial palace.



■ Peterhof is an immense, luxurious estate, known as the “capital of Russian fountains”; the Grand Cascade, built in front of the Grand Palace, is one of the largest fountain ensembles in the world. The Upper Garden and Lower Park are also cultural masterpieces and the magnificent Grand Palace was remodeled by the famous architect Bartolomeo Rastrelli.



Mamayev Hill

- Mamayev Hill is a place of great significance for the Russian people. This dominant hill, overlooking the city of Volgograd (former Stalingrad) saw some of the fiercest combat of all World War II, as it had immense strategic importance.



■ It was site of the bloodiest battle in human history. The hill was the nodal point of Soviet defence on the Volga bank. The last months of 1942 saw huge casualties on both sides, and the hill was the site of the last (successful) operation on February 2, 1943. An imposing monument now sits atop the hill.



■ The huge memorial statue of the Motherland, known as “The Motherland Calls!” was the largest free-standing sculpture in the world when it was built on top of Mamayev Kurgan, in 1967.

New Jerusalem-my "own wonder"



- And my opinion that New Jerusalem could be one of the seven wonders. Though the voting is over your vote can draw attention to this monastery. It needs restoration so you can help if you vote.

- The New Jerusalem Monastery is situated in the town of Istra in the Moscow Oblast and serves as home to the New Jerusalem Museum. The museum, which was established in 1920, has in excess of 170,000 exhibits representing the rich history and culture of the Russian people.



Conclusions



- The aim of the project was revival of patriotism sense and love to our homeland and also to draw attention to the renewal and saving the unique historical, cultural and natural sights of our country. Almost 26 million people went online and voted for their favorites. This competition showed us rich historically-cultural heritage of our homeland, because 'seven wonders' were chosen from hundreds of pretenders. Though the voting is over you can choose your own wonder on the official site of the project and draw attention to this sight or monument.