







north-west of Ufa at a distance of 102 km, the town of Birsk stands on the right bank of the Belaya. It has the population of 41.000 people. Since 1963 it has been a town of Republication jurisdiction. Birsk can be called the cultural capital of northern Bashkortostan.





The Belaya

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fortress-town; in 1781 it was given the status of an uyezd town. As to the social composition of Birsk residents at the time, there were 19 merchants, 42 low middle class people (small traders, craftsmen), 63 priest, 467 retired soldiers and their children, 22 serfs and peasants in 1800. 





## Our town in old

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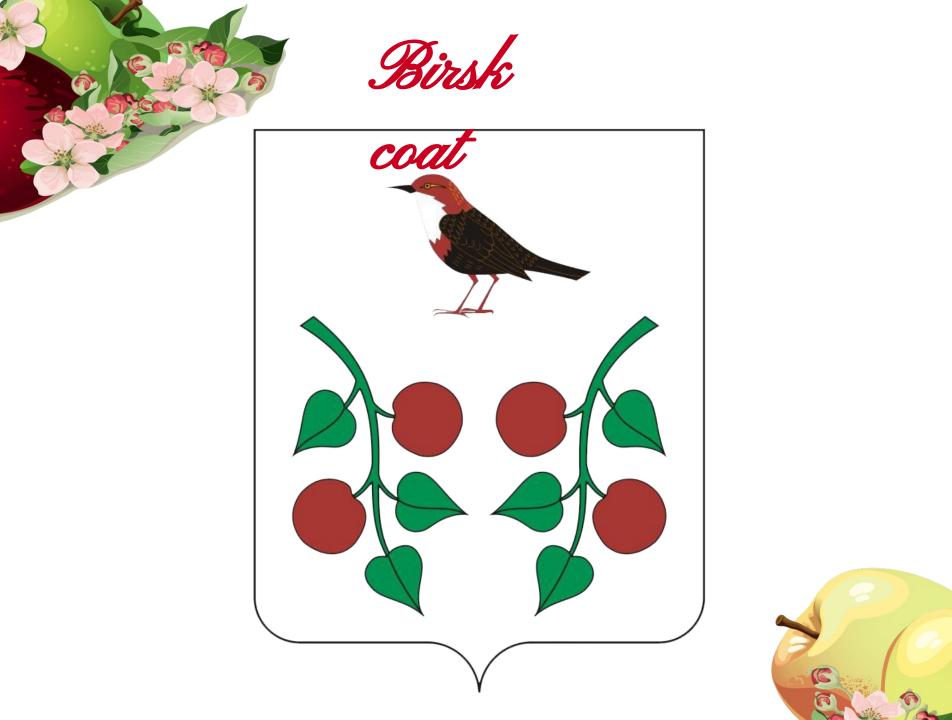








Birsk coat of arms is a heraldic shield horizontally divided into two equal parts. The upper part represents the coat of arms of the Ufa province - a running marten. The lower part represents a bird against



modest industry, the town enterprises include "The White Fortress" spirits-and-vodka integrated plant (known for special brands of vodka and fruit liqueurs), the "Sorbi" clothes factory (known for its fine quality men's and children's shirts and bed linen), the "Ceramics" enterprise (Known for its pottery and earthenware and folk crafts articles), the "Birsk electromechanical works" (transportable welding apparatuses, any unat good ) a broad habin a blant

well-known people lived in Birsk, among them Khaidia Davletshina. Her literary heritage is not big and includes among other works the novel "Irghiz", "Aibika", a collection of short stories 'Waves g Bom".









"town-forming" or "town-planning" establishments in Birsk is the State Social-and-Pedagogical University. It was founded in 1939, which makes it one of the oldest establishments if higher education in Bashkortostan. The history of the Academy can be traced to the teacher courses of 1919 and the Bashpedtechnikum that was opened on their basis at the time foundation in 1939 it had only two faculties: that of the Russian language and literature and the faculty of physics and mathematics. Now there are 10 faculties which train teachers and mathematics , philology, biology and chemistry, foreign languages (English, French, German), pedagogics and psychology, methods 

The youngest in the family are the faculty of physical training (opened in 2001), of technology and (private) business undertakings (opened in 2000), of arts and drawing (opened in 2000), of history (opened in 1998), of social psychology and pedagogics (opened in 2005). There is also a post-graduate course/study (aspirantura) in mathematics, chemistry, Russian and Soviet literature, pedagogics, English philology, 3 museums, a picture gallery, an agrobiological station, an arboretum, a student club, a sports club, a library, specialized studies 

A remarkable new tradition has recently been established in Birsk. In 1995 the "Hreschenskiye Morozy" Festival ("Epiphany Frost") of popular music and dance for young performer s was organized for the first time. Its aim is to travel young talent and open the way to

















a beautiful S-shaped lake, 8 km long and 7m in deep. Shadik is one of the most picturesque and poetic and beauty spots in Bashkortostan, beautiful in all seasons. Dense virgin forests, still waters of the lake, exhilarating clear air - all these call forth wonderful reminiscences and woods are rich in berries, mushrooms and herbs. There are recreation centers, campings, and holidays home on its shores. In winter there is excellent skiing and ice-fishing. Townsfolk like to



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