

About Moscow

Russia is a country with rich cultural and scientific traditions, historical heritage famous for its museums and magnificent architecture.

Time

Moscow Standard Time is three hours ahead of the Coordinated Universal Time standard, written as an offset of UTC + 3:00.

Currency

The Currency of Russia is ruble. All payments at the territory of Moscow are made in rubles by means of the most wide-spread credit cards (Visa, Master Card, American Express). Foreign currency can be exchanged at any bank or in any of currency exchange offices located at airports, hotels and on the streets of the city. The exchange rate shall be checked before your visit. To see the rate of exchange you should visit <http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/>

Credit cards

Despite the fact that credit cards are fairly accepted in the most of the shops in Moscow, it is better to have some cash with you when in the city. Some places don't accept cards (transport, certain restaurants and cafes, some museums). Cash machines accepting the main credit and debit cards – Visa, Master Card, Maestro, American Express – are fairly common and can be found at shopping centers and large shops, hotels and metro stations.

Language

Official language in Russia is the Russian language. English is quite widespread among the population, especially younger people. At most 4 and 5 star hotels staff speaks English, German, and French. You can find useful some basic knowing of the Russian alphabet, as most of the signs are in Russian. The conference staff speaks English fluently, they will be happy to help anyone who will experience difficulties in communication.

Climate | Weather

Moscow climate is moderate continental. The weather may be rainy, so it is recommended to take umbrellas with you. Sometimes it can also be hot. The average temperature between June and July is 25 degrees Centigrade at daytime and 15 degrees Centigrade at nighttime. Check the weather [here](#).

Insurance

The health and travel insurances are the full responsibilities of participants. We recommend all participants purchasing their insurances in advance.

Emergency calls

112: emergency services. *From a mobile phone, Russian and English, free. It will connect you to the emergency number of your service provider. If your operator does not provide this service or if your roaming agreement doesn't include it, you will be given the correct number to dial the city emergency services.*

01: fire **02:** police **03:** ambulance **04:** gas accident. *Can be dialed directly from payphones, with no codes.*

Hotline for tourists

+7-800-220-0002: for foreign tourists (English, FREE)

Moscow Maps

[Google map](#)
[Metro map](#)

Public Transport in Moscow

Airports. Moscow international airports - Domodedovo (DME), Sheremetyevo (SVO) and Vnukovo (VKO). The fastest, most reliable and convenient way to get from/to an airport is to take advantage of express trains departing from the railway stations: from Kievsky railway station - to Vnukovo airport, from Belorussky station - to Sheremetyevo airport and from Paveletsky station - to Domodedovo airport. The journey time is 35 - 40 minutes.

Metro. This is the fastest way to move around Moscow. Moscow metro has 190 stations and 12 lines. The hours of metro operation are daily from 5:35 am to 01:00 am. The average interval between trains is 2,5 minutes. The cost of one trip by metro is 30 rubles (without time limit). Payment for trip is effected by means of non-contact tickets and smart cards, access to a station is controlled by automatic turnstiles. Many stations of Moscow metro are recognized architectural monuments.

Public transport. In Moscow an extensive network of the routes of buses, trolleybuses, trams and fixed route taxis operates. At major highways special lanes are reserved for them. City transport starts to operate at 5:30 am and terminates its work about 0:00. On the Garden Ring trolleybuses go round the clock.

Taxi. Taxis may be called by phone or Internet. In any search engine one may find many taxi companies, most of them offer fixed tariffs for travel to airports and train stations. Special tariffs apply for meeting clients at airport of train station, the main thing is to place an order for it in advance. If you are to "catch" a taxi on the street it is recommended to use authorized urban taxi of yellow color equipped with an identification lamp on its roof and color-graphic "checkered" sign. The approximate cost of one trip through the city is 1 500 rubles.

WiFi

Free of charge access to wireless Internet is provided by most of cafes, restaurants and shopping centers located within the Garden Ring.

Electric power

The standard voltage in household electrical circuits in Moscow is 220 V. All hotel rooms are equipped with euro type sockets (type C or F), through them one may connect to the power supply for charging laptops, video and photo cameras as well as other necessary equipment.

The characteristics of stay

The traffic on the roads of Moscow is heavy, the most likely time for traffic jams is from 8:00 am to 11:00 am and from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. On weekdays it is better to go by metro. When leaving for airport by taxi one should calculate the necessary time with reserve and leave for airport at least 2 hours prior to check-in starting, which normally means at least 4 hours before the flight.

In Moscow restaurants tips are not included in bills, it is usual to leave some 5 - 10 % on top of the amount of check for a waiter. To taxi drivers one usually pays rounding the sum up to 100 rubles.

In museums it is often necessary to buy an extra ticket for the right to take photographs, it is not allowed to shoot pictures using flash. Monday is the day-off in most of Moscow museums.

In Russia the anti-smoking law is in effect, according to it, in particular, it is prohibited to smoke in government offices, trains, at stadiums, railway stations and nearby exits from metro. Moscow airports allocate special rooms for smokers. From the year 2014 it is banned to smoke in hotels, from June 1. 2013 – in restaurants and cafes, as well.

In Moscow registration of guests is required. The registration is done by a receiving party (for instance, by a hotel): each guest should present only his/her passport and migration card filled at the entrance to Russian Federation. Yet, foreign national is entitled to stay in Moscow without registration up to 7 days.