

# Moscow's historic heart from Red Square's icons to Zaryadye Park's modern marvels



● Red Square

● State Historical Museum

● Zaryadye Park

● Kremlin Palace

● St. Basil's Cathedral

● Soaring Bridge

● Moscow River

● Ice Cave



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Russia's membership in the BRICS—the intergovernmental organization comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia and the UAE—has had a significant impact on its tourism relations with other members. The collaboration within BRICS has facilitated increased tourism between Russia and these countries through various initiatives such as visa facilitation agreements, joint marketing campaigns, and cultural exchanges. This has led to a growth in the number of tourists visiting Russia from BRICS nations, as well as Russian tourists traveling to these countries. Drawn from a rich history spanning almost 900 years, Moscow, the capital of Russia, showcases

a unique cultural identity. Formerly famed for its traditional landmarks, the city has experienced a remarkable metamorphosis in recent decades. Standing in Red Square (known as Krasnaya ploshchad in Russian) of Moscow and admiring its architectural marvels, one might assume the square was named for its red brick buildings however, the origins of its name, stemming from the Russian word "krasnaya" meaning beautiful, hint at a deeper significance. Over the years, Moscow's Red Square has borne witness to pivotal moments that have left an indelible mark on Russian history. Serving as the vibrant heart of both Moscow and the nation, the iconic square showcases some of the most awe-inspiring landmarks in the city. Moscow's Red Square not only symbolizes beauty but also stands as a testament to the legacy of Russia's past.

## St. Basil's Cathedral

Located at the heart of Moscow's Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral stands as an iconic symbol of Russia. This vibrant and magnificent cathedral, adorned with its distinctive domes, represents a masterpiece of Russian architecture. Dating back to the 16th century, St. Basil's Cathedral is renowned for its unique design, rich history, attracting visitors from across the globe.

## State Historical Museum

Another prominent landmark on Red Square is the State Historical Museum, a revered institution that showcases Russia's cultural heritage and history. Housing a remarkable collection of artifacts, documents, and exhibitions spanning ancient eras to modern times, the museum offers a comprehensive insight into the country's past. Throughout its existence, the State Historical Museum has been a venue for a myriad of significant events, including lectures, exhibitions, and cultural programs that honor Russia's history and traditions. Serving as a center for scholarly research, educational endeavors, and public engagement, the museum plays a vital role in preserving and promoting Russia's historical legacy.

## Kremlin Palace

The Kremlin Palace, a historic fortified complex near Red Square overlooking the Moscow River, serves as the official residence of the Russian president. Featuring a collection of palaces, cathedrals, and administrative buildings from various periods in Russian history, the Kremlin has been a witness to significant historical events and remains a pivotal center of political and cultural im-

portance in Russia. Within its walls lie priceless treasures, museums, and art collections.

## Kazan Cathedral

The Kazan Cathedral of Moscow, also known as "the Cathedral of Our Lady of Kazan", is a prominent Russian Orthodox church located on Red Square in the heart of Moscow. This architectural masterpiece serves as a significant religious and cultural landmark in the city, drawing both worshippers and visitors alike with its awe-inspiring beauty and historical significance.

## Other attractions

Lenin's Mausoleum, a granite structure, houses the embalmed body of Vladimir Lenin, the founder of Soviet Russia. GUM Department Store, a historic shopping mall boasting a striking glass roof in another attraction near Red Square, offers a blend of luxury and high-end brands.

## Stage for celebrations and festivals

Red Square of Moscow has been the stage for numerous celebrations and festivals throughout Russia's history, drawing active participation from diverse crowds. Today, these vibrant events continue to attract a multitude of tourists from around the globe who flock to Moscow to witness them firsthand. The grand New Year celebrations in Russia are renowned for their spectacle, with the annual event at Red Square being particularly impressive. On the night of December 31st, Red Square transforms into a magical winter wonderland and a Christmas market resembling a festive village. As night falls, the square fills with thousands of people, while popular Russian mu-

sicians and singers grace the grand stages of Red Square, adding to the enchanting atmosphere.

## Zaryadye Park

Zaryadye, meaning 'beyond the [trading] rows,' is a remarkable park situated just adjacent to the Kremlin and Red Square, featuring some of Moscow's most striking modern architecture. The park was officially opened in 2017, offering visitors a captivating blend of nature and innovative design. The total area of Zaryadye Park is approximately 130,000 square meters.

## Botanical splendor

Zaryadye Park in Moscow boasts a diverse array of plants and greenery, creating a lush and vibrant oasis in the heart of the city. The park features a variety of trees, shrubs, and flowers, including both native Russian species and exotic plants from around the world. Visitors can explore different botanical zones within the park, such as the mixed forest, steppe, tundra, and meadowland sections, each showcasing unique flora adapted to various climatic conditions. This rich botanical diversity adds to the park's beauty and provides a peaceful and rejuvenating environment for visitors to enjoy nature in the heart of Moscow.

## Soaring Bridge

The Soaring Bridge in Zaryadye Park is a stunning architectural feature that spans the park's landscape with a striking, curved design. This modern bridge, built over Moscow River, offers visitors a unique vantage point to enjoy panoramic views of the park and the surrounding landmarks, including the iconic Kremlin and Red Square. With its contem-

porary aesthetics and impressive height, the Soaring Bridge serves as both a functional pathway and a captivating architectural attraction in one of Moscow's most renowned public spaces.

You can take panoramic pictures from the soaring Bridge which is a slender V-shaped structure, spanning 70 meters without visible supports. A popular observation point, it offers breathtaking views of Moscow's city skyline, the Moscow River, iconic landmarks, and modern architectural marvels including the glass skyscrapers. Stalin's Seven Sisters are seven skyscrapers built in Moscow from 1947 to 1953. You can't imagine Moscow without these skyscrapers. They were built in monumental Stalinist Empire style and inspired by skyscrapers of the USA. Today, two of Stalin's Seven Sisters are luxury hotels, one is the main building of Moscow State University, one is home to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the others are residential, commercial and administrative properties.

## Ice Cave

The ice cave in Zaryadye Park is a unique attraction that offers visitors a captivating experience of exploring a frozen wonderland within the heart of Moscow. This artificial cave is designed to simulate the icy environment of a real glacier, complete with shimmering ice formations, icy stalactites, and a chilly atmosphere that transports visitors to a frosty world. The cave provides a refreshing escape from the bustling city, allowing guests to immerse themselves in a magical winter setting, regardless of the season outside.