

Russian Geography

You will need to know:

- 1) Russia's contemporary borders;
- 2) Which countries used to be a part of the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union;
- 3) Main rivers and seas and their significance.

Is Russia in Europe or in Asia?

- Europe + Asia = Eurasia
- Divided by the Ural Mountains
(УРАЛ)
- The only other country situated both in Europe and Asia is ???

Is Russia in Europe or in Asia?

- Europe + Asia = Eurasia
- Divided by the Ural Mountains
(УРАЛ)
- The only other country situated both in Europe and Asia is **Turkey**

Russia in Europe and in Asia



Russia and Turkey





Russia

Neighboring Countries: NOR., SWEDEN, FIN., UKR., KAZAKHSTAN, TURK., UZB., KYR., TAJ., AFG., CHINA, MONGOLIA, NORTH KOREA, SOUTH KOREA, JAPAN.

Major Cities: Stockholm, Helsinki, Mumansk, Novaya Zemlya, Arkhangel'sk, St. Petersburg, Nizhniy Novgorod, Moscow, Penza, Volgograd (Stalingrad), Krasnodar, Groznyy, Caspian Sea, Astana, Chelyabinsk, Yekaterinburg, Samara, Perm, Omsk, Novosibirsk, Novokuznetsk, Irkutsk, Ulan Ude, Chita, Komsomol'sk na Amure, Khabarovsk, Vladivostok, Amar.

Geographical Features: Spitsbergen (Norway), Arctic Ocean, Barents Sea, Lena, Yenisey, Ob', Ural Mts., Volga, Lake Baikal (Ozero Baykal), Lake Balkhash, Sea of Okhotsk, Sea of Japan, Yellow Sea.

Scale: 0 250 500 mi / 0 250 500 km

Coordinates: 60°N, 80°E, 100°E, 120°E

You need to know what countries used to be under the Russian rule and when

- **Finland** (early 19 to 1917)
- A part of **Poland** (late 18 to 1918)
- A part of the **U.S.** (mid-17 cent to 1867)

Until 1991 (collapse of the Soviet Union)

- **Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania** (Baltic)
- **Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova** (South-west)
- **Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan** (The South Caucasus = Transcaucasia)
- **Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan** (Central Asia)



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Alaska



Alaska as Part of Russian Geographic Space

- Mid-17 century – discovered by Russian expeditions; more expeditions sent in 18 century
- Russian Orthodox Church – missions
- In early 19 century run by the Russian-American Company
- 1867 – purchased by the U.S. for \$7,000,000 (apprx \$120,000,000 in today's money) Pres. Andrew Johnson

Geographic Subdivisions



Russian Seas and Lakes

- The White Sea – 12 century (North)
- The Caspian Sea – 16 century (South)
- The Baltic Sea – 17 century (North-west)
- The Black and Azov Seas – 18 c. (South-west)
- Lake Baikal – Eastern Siberia (16-17 c.)

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Black Sea and Caspian Sea



The Sea of Azov

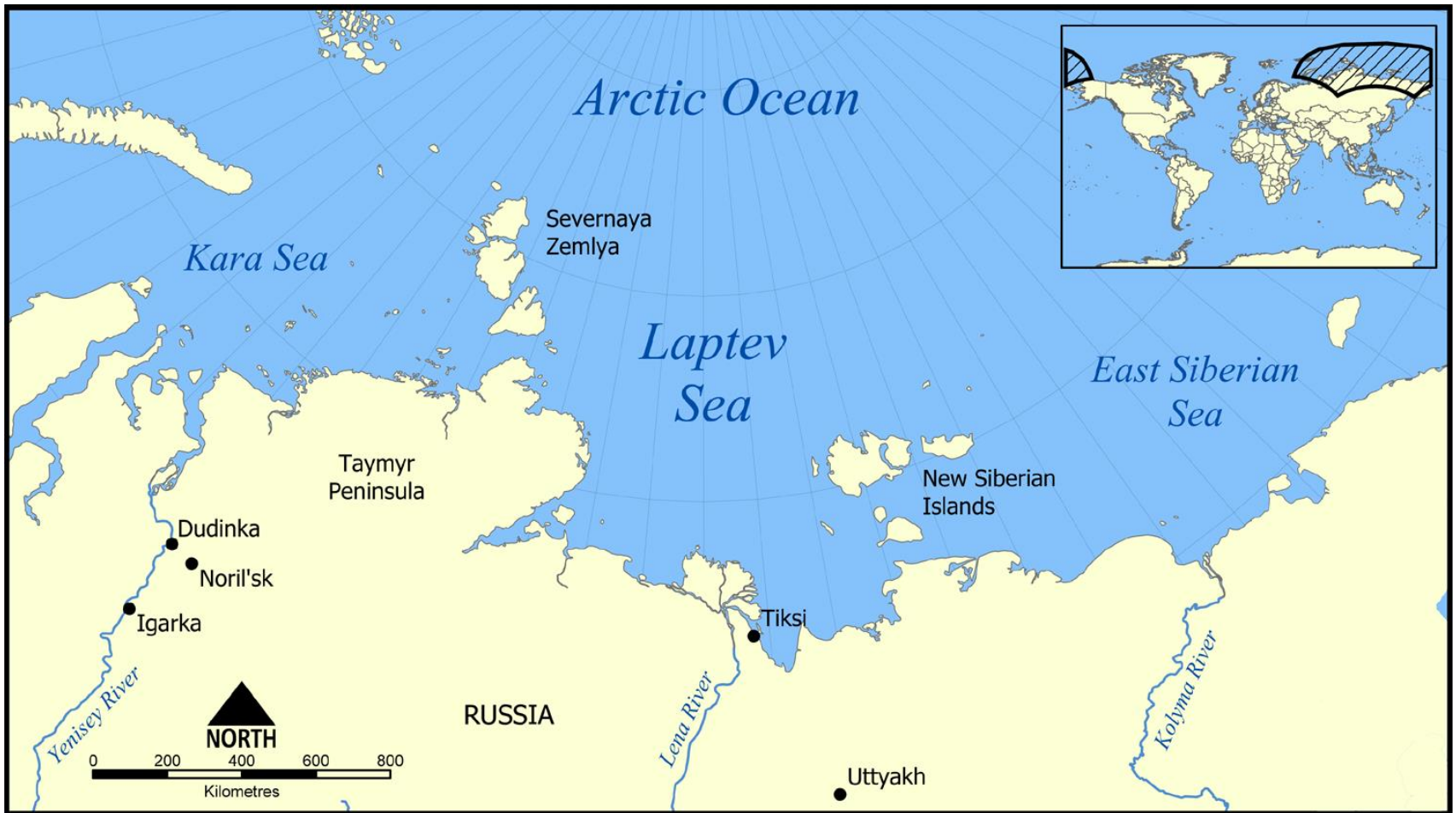


The Baltic Sea





Seas in the Arctic Ocean





Russia's Longest Rivers (km)

Siberian Rivers

LENA	Лена	4400
OB'	Обь	3650
ENISEY	Енисей	3487
AMUR	Амур	2824
KOLYMA	Колыма	2129
URAL	Урал	2422

South-West/Ukraine

DNEIPER	Днепр*	2201
DON	Дон	1870

VOLGA Волга 3531 (European Russia)

Two smaller but important rivers

- Moscow-river (MOSKVA – МОСКВА) –
The city of Moscow
- Neva (Нева) (the city of St. Petersburg)

You need to know the names of the main rivers

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The Volga

- The longest river in Europe
- A symbol of Russia: Mother-Volga River (cf. Mother Russia) – «Волга – матушка-река»
- From XIII Century – a trade route
- Today, it connects the Baltic and the Black Seas through canals
- Songs about the Volga
- Non-Russian population of the Volga Basin

Volga River = ВОЛГА

