

Russia

Continent: Europe

Languages Spoken: Russian

Population: 144,000,000

Currency: Russian Ruble (RUB)

Area: 17,098,242

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Red Square', 'writeup': 'Historic square in Moscow, known for its political and cultural significance.'}
- {'name': 'Kremlin', 'writeup': 'Fortified complex in Moscow that serves as the official residence of the President.'}
- {'name': 'Hermitage Museum', 'writeup': 'One of the largest and oldest museums in the world, located in Saint Petersburg.'}
- {'name': 'Lake Baikal', 'writeup': "World's deepest freshwater lake, located in Siberia."}
- {'name': "Saint Basil's Cathedral", 'writeup': 'Iconic colorful cathedral located on Red Square in Moscow.'}

Head of State / Government:

President Vladimir Putin

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Maslenitsa', 'writeup': 'Traditional Slavic festival marking the end of winter with pancakes and festivities.'}
- {'name': 'Victory Day', 'writeup': 'Commemoration of the victory over Nazi Germany in World War II, celebrated on May 9.'}
- {'name': 'White Nights Festival', 'writeup': 'Cultural festival in Saint Petersburg featuring music, ballet, and opera during the summer.'}

Food & Cuisine:

Russian cuisine features hearty dishes like borscht, pelmeni, blini, and caviar, reflecting its diverse climate and cultural influences.

Brief History:

Russia emerged as a powerful state in the 16th century, expanded across Eurasia, became the Soviet Union in the 20th century, and is now a federal semi-presidential republic.

Important People:

- Peter the Great - Tsar who modernized Russia
- Catherine the Great - Empress who expanded Russian territory
- Leo Tolstoy - Renowned author
- Yuri Gagarin - First human in space
- Vladimir Putin - Current President

Current Conflicts:

Ongoing tensions and conflict related to Ukraine, including the annexation of Crimea and military involvement in Eastern Ukraine.

Youtube Links:

- Russia - Land of Contrasts and History
- Top 10 Places to Visit in Russia
- Russian Culture and Traditions Explained
- A Brief History of Russia
- Russian Cuisine: Traditional Dishes You Must Try