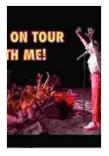
# **Russia Revisited: Come Take a Tour With Me**



#### **RUSSIA REVISITED: Come Take a Tour with Me**

by James Calbraith			
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Welcome to Russia, a vast and enigmatic land that has captured the imagination of travelers for centuries. From its iconic landmarks to its vibrant culture, Russia is a country that is sure to leave a lasting impression. In this guide, I will take you on a journey through the history, culture, people, and places to visit in Russia. So come take a tour with me and discover the beauty and wonder of this fascinating country.

#### History

Russia's history is long and complex, dating back to the 9th century when the Vikings founded the city of Novgorod. Over the centuries, Russia has been ruled by a succession of tsars, emperors, and communists. In 1991, the Soviet Union collapsed and Russia emerged as an independent nation. Today, Russia is a member of the United Nations and the G8. It is also a major economic and military power.

### Culture

Russia has a rich and vibrant culture that is influenced by its vast size and diverse population. Russian culture is known for its literature, music, art, and architecture. Some of Russia's most famous writers include Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, and Chekhov. Russian music is also world-renowned, with composers such as Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, and Stravinsky. Russian art is also highly regarded, with painters such as Repin, Kandinsky, and Malevich.

### People

The people of Russia are as diverse as its landscape. Russians come from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, and they speak over 100 different languages. The majority of Russians are Orthodox Christians, but there are also significant Muslim, Jewish, and Buddhist populations. Russians are generally friendly and welcoming, and they are proud of their country's rich history and culture.

### **Places to Visit**

Russia is a vast country with a lot to offer visitors. Here are just a few of the must-see places:

- Moscow: The capital of Russia, Moscow is a vibrant metropolis with a rich history and culture. Be sure to visit Red Square, the Kremlin, and the Bolshoi Theatre.
- Saint Petersburg: Once the capital of Russia, Saint Petersburg is a beautiful city with a rich architectural heritage. Be sure to visit the Hermitage Museum, the Winter Palace, and the Peterhof Palace.

- Golden Ring: The Golden Ring is a group of ancient cities located northeast of Moscow. These cities are home to some of Russia's most beautiful churches and monasteries.
- Trans-Siberian Railway: The Trans-Siberian Railway is the longest railway in the world, stretching over 9,000 kilometers from Moscow to Vladivostok. It is a great way to see the vastness of Russia and experience its diverse landscapes.
- Lake Baikal: Lake Baikal is the largest freshwater lake in the world. It is located in Siberia and is known for its crystal-clear waters and stunning scenery.
- Ural Mountains: The Ural Mountains are a mountain range that separates Europe from Asia. They are a popular destination for hikers and climbers.
- Siberia: Siberia is a vast region that covers over 75% of Russia's landmass. It is known for its harsh climate and its vast forests and tundra.

Russia is a country that is full of history, culture, and natural beauty. It is a destination that is sure to leave a lasting impression. If you are planning a trip to Russia, be sure to check out this guide for tips on what to see and do. And if you have any questions, feel free to leave a comment below.



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