



AGENCY
FOR STRATEGIC
INITIATIVES



GUIDE FOR FOREIGN CITIZENS MOVING TO RUSSIA

under Presidential Decree No. 702
dated August 19, 2024

April 2025



Russia: a country where traditions merge with new opportunities!



President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin signed Decree No. 702 “On Providing Humanitarian Support to Persons Sharing Traditional Russian Spiritual and Moral Values” dated August 19, 2024. This decree grants foreign citizens and stateless persons the right to move to Russia and obtain a temporary residence permit (TRP) in a simplified manner – without considering the established quota and without undergoing testing for knowledge of the Russian language, history, and legislation.

Occupying one-eighth of the Earth’s land area, **Russia is the largest country in the world.** It borders 18 states and is washed by 12 seas.

In Russia, you can live in almost any of the existing climatic zones, from biodiversity-rich subtropics to the breathtaking and endless Arctic.

Russia has **89 regions united into 8 federal districts**, namely the Central, Volga, Northwestern, Southern, North Caucasian, Ural, Siberian, and Far Eastern Federal Districts.

The area and population density vary from region to region – from the relatively compact republics of the North Caucasus with a fairly high population density to the huge regions in Siberia and the Russian Far East.

For example, the area of the Krasnoyarsk Territory (Siberia) is 6.5 times larger than that of Germany or 4 times larger than France, while the Republic of Yakutia (Russia’s Far East) spans a larger area than that of Argentina. Russia is so vast that to fly from its westernmost point to its easternmost point, you will need at least 10 hours, and to cover the distance on foot, it will take 84 days.

Russia has always been home to many peoples, and people of different faiths live side by side here. **Today, more than 190 ethnic groups live in the country.**



Ethnocultural diversity, traditional religions, a rich language, and deep national traditions are all merged into the broad concept of “Russian culture.”

Today, Russia is the keeper and guardian of traditional spiritual and moral values and culture. The country is free, safe, and welcoming to its friends.

Russia is a country where one wishes to live and work because of safety, a low crime rate, and social stability. It offers free education and healthcare, as well as excellent infrastructure.

The capital of Russia, Moscow, is annually included in the top international rankings for quality of life and technological development among the world’s megacities. It offers a comfortable environment for both living and doing business. In fact, Russia has many large cities with a high standard of living and conditions for entrepreneurship, including Saint Petersburg, Kazan, Nizhny Novgorod, Tula, Kaluga, Ufa, Tyumen, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, etc.

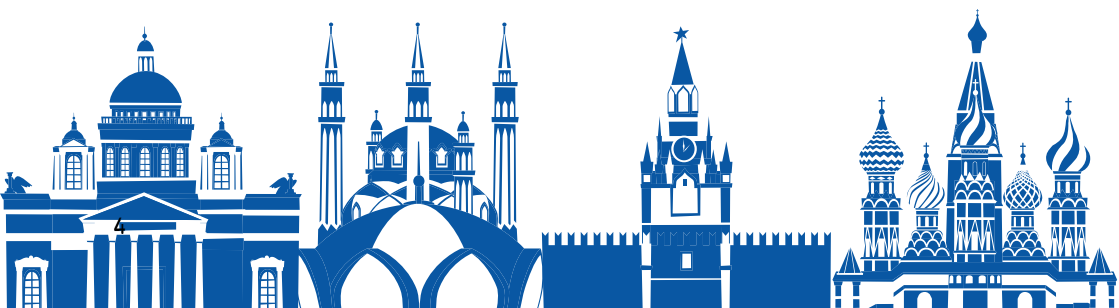
In addition, there are about 800 smaller cities, towns, and historical settlements, such as Suzdal, Sergiyev Posad, Plyos, Torzhok, Gorokhovets, Svetlogorsk, etc., in Russia. Here, rich history and cultural heritage meet with a comfortable living environment, particularly for large families.

Large cities, small towns, or rural areas — in Russia, there is a place for life and self-realization for those following any tradition or having any needs, as talent and professionalism are valued here. And wherever you live in Russia, you can travel around it endlessly, enjoying pristine nature, varied cuisine, folk art and crafts, or new brands.

The best place to admire the Northern Lights is in the Murmansk Region, and the most beautiful sunsets are in Nizhny Novgorod, they say. The Far East offers an incredible variety of seafood. In Karelia, one can see the Eighth Wonder of the World — the Church of the Transfiguration on Kizhi Island — while the wineries of the Krasnodar Territory and Crimea can satisfy the tastes of even the most discerning wine connoisseurs. These are just a few examples, and everyone will find a place and activity to their liking.

Russia is a country of big projects and great discoveries. Here you can feel protected and free, and you may not fear for the future of your family. Here you can develop professionally without any pressure.

Russia is open to everyone who shares our values. We are looking for talents and unique specialists in science, technology, culture, and sports.



Welcome to Russia!

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

You can apply if:

1. **You are a citizen of one of the states mentioned in the list*, or a stateless person permanently residing in it.**
2. **You share Russian spiritual and moral values.**

And you would like to move to Russia. You can apply for a one-time ordinary private Russian visa for a period of up to 3 months to further apply for a temporary residence permit (TRP) with the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA).

Russian spiritual and moral values include:

- Human life, dignity, rights, and freedoms.
- Patriotism and civic spirit.
- Service to the Homeland and responsibility for its destiny.
- High moral ideals.
- Strong family.
- Creative labor.
- Prioritization of the spiritual over the material.
- Humanism, mercy, and justice.
- Joint effort, mutual aid, and mutual respect.
- Historical memory and continuity of generations.
- Unity of the peoples who live in Russia.

Please note that you can apply for a TRP in Russia with other types of valid visas: tourist and unified electronic visa.

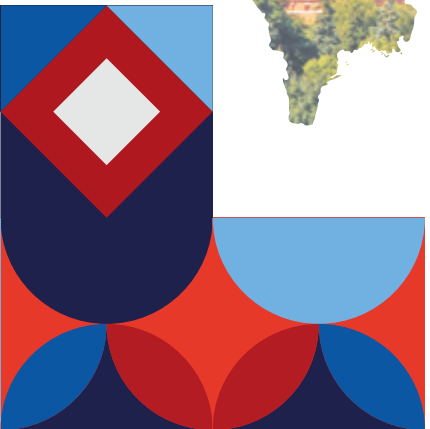
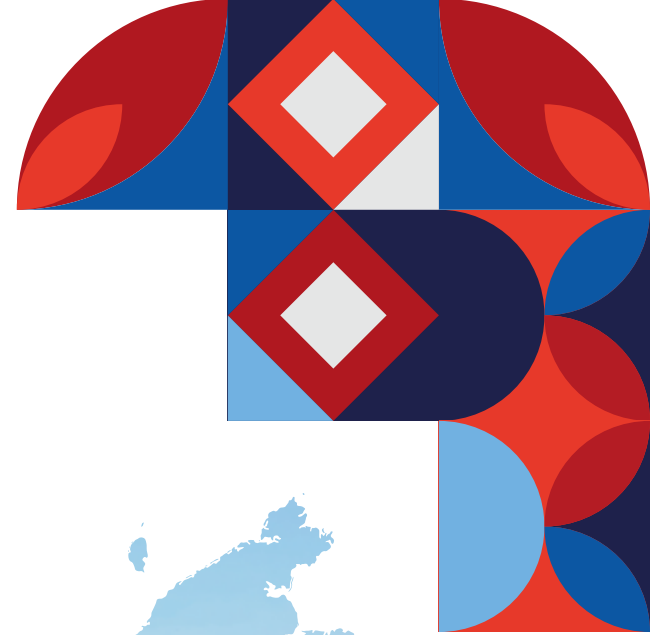
Read further to learn more about the steps you need to take to process required documents for smooth move.

*** The list of states established by the Government of the Russian Federation:**

Australia, Austria, Albania, Andorra, Bahamas, Belgium, Bulgaria, Great Britain (including the British Crown Dependencies and British Overseas Territories), Germany, Greece, Denmark, Ireland, Iceland, Spain, Italy, Canada, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, North Macedonia, Singapore, Slovenia, United States of America, Taiwan (China), Ukraine, Finland, France, Croatia, Montenegro, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Sweden, Estonia, Japan.



THREE STAGES ON THE WAY TO RUSSIA



STAGE 1. BEFORE THE MOVE

1

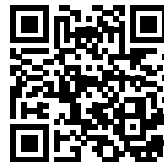
Step 1. Learn more about Russia!

Find information about Russia, its climate, regions, and living opportunities.

You can learn more if you visit some helpful web resources, such as:



Window to Russia



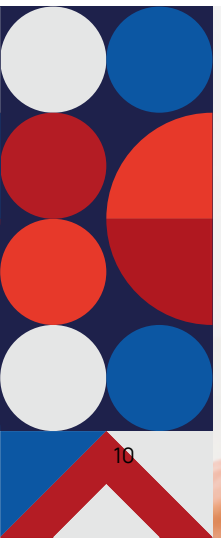
Welcome to Russia

Step 2. Gather documents to apply for a single-entry ordinary private 90-day visa:

- Visa application with a photo.
- Foreign passport that has clean pages for a visa and is still valid for 6 months from the date the visa expires.
- Health insurance policy.
- Permanent residence permit or a document certifying permission to stay in the country of application for more than 180 days (if you apply for a visa in a country other than your citizenship).

Please note that you will also need to obtain a certificate of the presence or absence of a criminal record issued in your country (the document must be apostilled or legalized and presented in the original with a translation into Russian (all pages, marks, stamps, seals, etc.), the accuracy or authenticity of which must be notarized by an authorized employee of a Russian foreign institution or a notary on the territory of the Russian Federation).

This certificate will be required to apply for a temporary residence permit (TRP) on the territory of Russia!



Step 3. Apply with the Consular Department of the Russian Embassy or to the Consulate General of the Russian Federation:

Here you can find contacts of Russian missions of the MFA of Russia in your country:



List of Russian embassies and consulates



Visa appointment through the system run by the Consular Department of the MFA of Russia

Important information for those moving with children!

Please pay attention to the requirements for enrollment of children of foreign citizens in educational institutions (kindergartens/schools).

When enrolling children in school, they will have to prove their knowledge of the Russian language, which is adequate to master the educational program (to enroll children in kindergartens, you are not required to provide confirmation of proficiency in the Russian language).

The “basic” level is Level A2. According to the standard of Russian as a foreign language, Level A1 requires 100–120 academic hours, and Level A2 requires 180–200 academic hours (provided that the student has an elementary level of Russian language proficiency).

Do not worry, as children learn languages quickly, and you can be sure that with language immersion, they will reach the required level without any problems! We recommend using the available resources to learn Russian before moving.



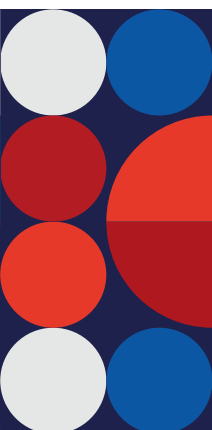
govori.ru



learnrussian.rt.com



gramota.ru



STAGE 2. MOVE

2

Step 1. Customs clearance:

Cash: Maximum amount is USD 10,000 without declaration.

Maximum value of imported goods:

1. **EUR 10,000 with a total weight of no more than 50 kg for crossing an air border.**
2. **EUR 1,500 with a total weight of no more than 50 kg for crossing other borders (railway, road, or water borders).**

If the total value and weight of your goods exceeds the above standards, you will be subject to a single rate of customs duties and taxes, namely 30% of the customs value of the above-mentioned goods.

More details about the rules for the movement of goods upon entry into the Russian Federation can be found on the website of the Federal Customs Service.



customs.gov.ru

Customs duties for individuals for vehicles manufactured no more than 3 years ago

Vehicle value	Customs duty
with the value of no more than EUR 8,500 (in equivalent)	at a flat rate of 54% of the value, but no less than EUR 2.5 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement
with the value of more than EUR 8,500 (in equivalent), but no more than EUR 16,700 (in equivalent)	at a flat rate of 48% of the value, but no less than EUR 3.5 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement
with the value of more than EUR 16,700 (in equivalent), but no more than EUR 42,300 (in equivalent)	at a flat rate of 48% of the value, but no less than EUR 5.5 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement
with the value of more than EUR 42,300 (in equivalent), but no more than EUR 84,500 (in equivalent)	at a flat rate of 48% of the value, but no less than EUR 7.5 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement
with the value of more than EUR 84,500 (in equivalent), but no more than EUR 169,000 (in equivalent)	at a flat rate of 48% of the value, but no less than EUR 15 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement
with the value of more than EUR 169,000 (in equivalent)	at a flat rate of 48% of the value, but no less than EUR 20 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement

Customs duties for individuals for vehicles manufactured more than 3 years ago, but no more than 5 years ago

Vehicle value	Customs duty
with engine displacement of no more than 1,000 cm ³	at a flat rate of EUR 1.5 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement
with engine displacement of more than 1,000 cm ³ , but no more than 1,500 cm ³	at a flat rate of EUR 1.7 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement
with engine displacement of more than 1,500 cm ³ , but no more than 1,800 cm ³	at a flat rate of EUR 2.5 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement
with engine displacement of more than 1,800 cm ³ , but no more than 2,300 cm ³	at a flat rate of EUR 2.7 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement
with engine displacement of more than 2,300 cm ³ , but no more than 3,000 cm ³	at a flat rate of EUR 3 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement
with engine displacement of more than 3,000 cm ³	at a flat rate of EUR 3.6 per 1 cm ³ of engine displacement

Step 2. Housing arrangements:

After receiving your visa, you need to decide on the place where you will live during your stay in Russia.

Renting a home in Russia is simple and quite affordable!

Average rental cost of apartments in 2025 by Russian regions:

Moscow	RUB 91,000
Moscow Region	RUB 41,000
Saint Petersburg	RUB 52,000
Krasnodar Territory	RUB 30,000

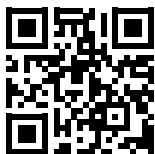
You can contact a real estate agency who will help you find good accommodation, or use user-friendly online platforms:



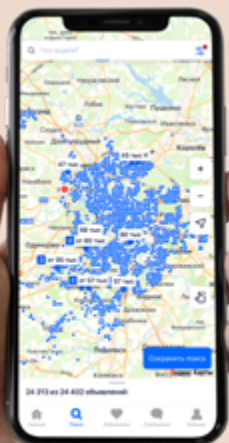
ostrovok.ru



cian.ru



sutochno.ru



STAGE 3. IN RUSSIA

3

Step 1. Get a registration document at the place of stay at a police office

Upon arrival at the place of residence, you are required to register and receive a document of registration at the place of stay (**each of your family members**, including minors, are required to hold the same). To do this, you should take the following steps, depending on the type of accommodation:

1. If you choose to stay in a hotel:

Contact the hotel administrator at the front desk and present your documents. Within 24 hours, they must issue you a notification slip. It will be issued electronically and printed out for you.



2. If you choose rented housing:

Present or submit copies of your documents to your landlord/landlady. Your landlord/landlady must issue a notification slip for you within

7 business days. In this case, you may receive either a hard copy of the slip or a printout of the e-notification, where the application goes via the Unified Public Services Portal (EPGU).

3. If you are a homeowner:

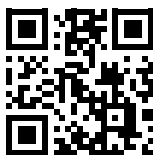
You can fill out the notification yourself indicating details from the Unified State Register of Real Estate (USRRE). The following documents should be attached to the notification:

1. Copy of your passport (with notarized translation if there is no Russian text in it).
2. Copy of your migration form.
3. Copy of the USRRE extract (optionally). The notification can be submitted in person or by contacting a multifunctional migration center in the region of residence to receive the relevant service.

For receiving advice or necessary documents, foreign citizens can contact the nearest office of FSUE "PVS" of the MIA of Russia.

FSUE "PVS" of the MIA of Russia has a Call Center. If you need more information in your language, call them:

+7 (800) 200-52-09



pvsmd.ru

Step 2. Apply for a temporary residence permit (TRP) with the territorial authorities of the MIA of Russia.

The application for the temporary residence permit should be submitted with a multifunctional migration center. Information about such centers can be found on the official websites of the MIA of Russia, FSUE "PVS" of the MIA of Russia, and the Multifunctional Migration Center of Moscow.

Those applying for the temporary residence permit (TRP) under Presidential Decree 702 should apply with a **dedicated window** of the migration center (except for Moscow). If you come to a consultant of the migration center for an e-queue slip, let them know that the purpose of your appeal is the TRP under Decree 702.

You should have the recommended list of documents with you, namely:

- passport;
- notarized translation of all pages of your passport;
- migration form;
- visa (if issued on a separate form);
- notification slip of registration at the address of residence;
- police clearance certificate with an apostille and a notarized translation into Russian;
- 2 black and white or color 3.5×4.5 cm photos; stateless persons are required to provide 5 such photos;
- medical opinion on the absence of drugs / psychotropic substances in the body, for all foreigners, regardless of age*;
- medical opinion on the absence of dangerous infectious diseases*;
- residence permit or a similar document confirming that the applicant resides in a country in the above-mentioned list (page 7) (if it is other than the country of citizenship);
- state duty payment receipt.

The documents should be brought to the relevant regional unit of the Migration Service or to the Multifunctional Migration Center.

When submitting your documents, you will also be subject to fingerprinting. Applicants may apply for a TRP for both themselves and for their minor children. The application may be signed by a foreign national who has reached the age of 14. If the child is over 6 years old, he or she must be present at the Ministry of Internal Affairs in person for fingerprinting.

The approximate period for obtaining the TRP is 4 months from the date on which your application is accepted.

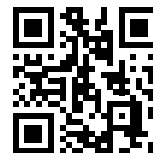
Step 3. Employment in the Russian Federation

Russia offers plenty of career opportunities!

You can read job offers, including employer details, and find a suitable job in any region of Russia.

If you are already in the Russian Federation, as a foreign national **you may personally contact the employment service** to seek advice or **government support** (i.e., assistance in finding a suitable job, including assistance in filling out a questionnaire, career guidance for the purpose of choosing a job, employment and completion of job-related courses).

Online headhunting platforms:



trudvsem.ru



hh.ru



superjob.ru



startin.moscow



AHO OKA



LEARN MORE ABOUT RUSSIA!

Main public holidays in Russia:

January 1	New Year
January 7	Christmas
February 23	Defender of the Fatherland Day
March 8	International Women's Day
May 1	Labor Day
May 9	Victory Day
June 12	Russia Day
July 8	Day of Family, Love and Fidelity
November 4	National Unity Day
December 12	Russian Constitution Day

