

Visa Information

All foreign visitors to Russia will need to apply for a 'Tourist Visa'. To get a Tourist Visa you will need a 'Tourist Invitation', issued by hotel where you will stay. This will cost 39 EURO and include Visa registration upon your arrival to Moscow, the cheapest available in Moscow. Here is our 3 Step Simple Guide.

Step One

Please email to customerservice@petrovkaloft.com. We need:

1. **Your passport information**
 - Passport number
 - Full first and last names. Please write them separately to avoid mistakes from our side.
 - Nationality
 - Gender
 - Date of birth
2. **Your entry and exit dates in Russia**

If you are planning to travel around Russia, let us know where. If you are only visiting Moscow, just write arrival and departure date.

After receiving your details we will send you Request for payment form for your credit card information. You will get invitation the following 2-3 days.

Step Two

Take the following to your nearest Russian Consulate:

1. A printed copy of the invitation letter
2. Two passport sized photos of yourself
3. The Russian Consulate Processing fee (see consulate for prices)
4. Your passport

Step Three

Pick up your Passport with the newly inserted Russian Visa. Check the Visa dates are those you requested or for longer period. Now you are ready to visit Russia!

****Please note that some citizens can only get a Russian Visa in the country that they are a permanent or temporary resident of, and not in a third country. I.e. Japanese citizens must only apply for their Russian visa in Japan, and not in any other third country. Please check with your local Russian Consulate on the current rules, they change constantly****

Important Notes

Tourist visas are only valid for a maximum of 30 days and cannot be extended. If you wish to stay in Russia for longer than one month you will need a Business visa. You don't need to be a business to apply for this. You can not change the dates for the invitation once it has been issued, if you are unsure of the length of time you will stay in Russia, put the maximum 30 days. Russian Consulate prices vary from country to country and operate on a sliding scale policy, i.e. if you want your visa in a shorter time you will pay more money for it. Some Russian Consulates, e.g. London, operate a postal service which saves you time queuing at the consulate.

Russian Entry Requirements

Requirements For Foreign Citizens To Enter Russia

Tourist Travel to Russia

1. Passport must be valid 6 months beyond intended stay
2. Tickets and Documents for return or onward travel
3. Russian Visa is Required
4. Vaccination - None Required

Business Travel to Russia

1. Passport must be Valid 6 months Beyond Intended Stay
2. Tickets and Documents for Return or Onward Travel
3. Russian Visa is Required
4. Vaccinations - None Required

Russian Visa Requirements

The following documents should be submitted to the Russian [Embassy or Consulate](#) to obtain visa to enter Russia.

NEW REGULATIONS ON A VISA OBTAINING PROCEDURE IN EU COUNTRIES

Starting with June 15, the Russian consulates located in Europe take 3 to 10 business days for the visa processing. In addition, Russian visas issued by the consulates in Europe now have a five day "waiting period" on entering Russia, i.e. the person can not travel to Russia for at least 5 days after the visa is issued.

This rule has been applied sporadically and it seems to largely depend on a consulate. If your travel plans are urgent, we strongly recommend you to contact the Russian consulate you plan to collect your visa at and make sure that your visa will be available in time.

Russian Tourist Visa

1. Your original passport with at least 2 blank visa-designated pages (passport must be valid for at least 6 months after intended departure date from Russia).
2. Two copies of Russian visa application form, completed and signed.
3. ONE passport-size photo signed on the back.
4. If Tour Group or Cruise Passenger: Letter from tour company or cruise line confirming itinerary and including a copy of the confirmation from authorized Russian travel company which shows the reference number and confirmation number for the visa.
5. If Individual Travel: Confirmation of hotel arrangements from authorized Russian travel company, showing reference number and confirmation number for the visa.

Russian Business Single, Double and Multiple-Entry Visa

1. Your original passport with at least 2 blank visa-designated pages (passport must be valid for at least 6 months after intended departure date from Russia).
2. Two copies of Russian visa application form, completed and signed.
3. ONE passport-size photo signed on the back.
4. For stay exceeding 3 months, or multi entry visa, a HIV test required.
5. Official invitation from an organization authorized to invite business visitors to Russia.

The Invitation to Russia must be from the Russian Foreign Ministry or its regional representatives; The Ministry of Interior or its local offices; or other authorized Russian Agencies. The letter must contain official seal and legal address of the agency, signature and name of official authorized to invite foreigners to Russia. The Embassy reserves the right to request the original invitation.

Russian Visa Application Form

This Russian Visa Application is on one page of white paper measuring 8 1/2 by 11 (letter size) which must be photocopied on a single sheet. It should not be enlarged or reduced.

To print the Russian Visa Application in Portable Document Format (PDF) you will require Adobe Acrobat Reader Version 4.0 or higher, free from Adobe Systems, Inc. You can [download the Acrobat Reader](#) version that is suitable to your system from the Adobe web site.



FOR US CITIZENS ONLY.

Effective April 1, 2004, US citizens applying for Russian visas should submit to the Consulate a new Application Form. The new form is implemented on the basis of reciprocity and replaces the previous standard Application Form and the Supplemental Form. Please [click here to view or print this form](#) if you qualify. After that, just print, sign and send it with other required paperwork.

NEW! IF APPLYING IN THE UK.

Those who apply for a visa in the UK need to fill in a special application form. Please contact the consulate in London or Edinburgh for further instructions.

Registration of Visas in Russia

Your Russian Visa should be registered upon arrival to the Russian Federation.

According to the Russian law, your Russian visa must be registered within 3 business days upon arrival.

When you stay at a hotel, the registration is fully taken care of by the hotel reception. The registration fee is 600 rubs per visa.

Please note that not registering your Russian visa may lead to serious problems: you may be stopped by police, fined, be made non-eligible to get a Russian visa in the future, etc. We strongly advise you to register your Russian visa to avoid possible consequences. It is also very important to register in time.

Attention! The details of the registration procedure change pretty often. We strongly recommend that you contact our Customer Service Team before or immediately after your arrival to Russia and we will be glad to provide the latest up to date on the registration procedure.

FAQ

Do I need a visa?

A Russian visa is required for nationals of most countries. However, recently Russia established a visa free regime with several European, Asian and South American countries. To check whether the visa free regime is applicable in your case, please contact the Russian consulate in your country. Contact info is available [here](#).

<http://www.russianembassy.net/>

How to obtain a visa?

To obtain a Russian visa, you first need to obtain an invitation (visa support) issued by an authorized organization. Then you should take that invitation to the Russian consulate in your country in order to obtain an actual visa. The Petrovka Loft provides tourist and business invitations. An application can be submitted to customerservice@petrovkaloft.com. Full information on the visa duration, processing time and fees is indicated on our website.

While at the consulate

I have received my invitation. What next?

Once you have obtained an official invitation, you can apply at the Russian consulate in your country for an actual visa.

Here follows the list of documents you will have to present to the Russian consulate: completed consulate application form, invitation letter, original passport, two passport size mat finish photos, consular fee and a proof of medical insurance.

For multiple entry visas you will also be required to present an AIDS Test certificate with test results issued within the previous 30 days.

Those who apply for a visa not in their own country may also need to present documents that confirm their status in this country.

A consulate application form is available on www.petrovkaloft.com/

It is always a good idea to contact the Russian consulate in order to receive the latest update on the required documents, processing time options and consular fees. Contact details of the Russian consulates are available [here](#).

The consulate will also inform you whether it would be possible for you to send the documents via registered mail (enclosing a return envelope) and then have your passport with visa sent back to you.

This option is available in most countries.

Another option is to have a local visa agency take care of your consulate application.

How to fill in the consulate application form?

In order to obtain a visa, it is essential that the visa application form is filled in correctly.

The information you enter in the application form must match that in your invitation. Please stay

consistent with the visa support you have requested and been provided with. While there exist several visa application forms (one for US passport holders, one for those who apply for a visa in the UK, etc.) and the order and wording of the questions may vary, the information required by the consulate is mostly the same in every case. Here are the correct answers to the questions asked in the consulate application form.

Tourist visa application

Purpose of visit - TOURISM.

Russian institution to be visited - non-applicable. You need a tourist visa, not a business one. Tourists are not supposed to be visiting any departments or organizations.

Itinerary (cities to be visited) - as listed on the invitation.

Date of entry - as listed on the invitation.

Date of departure - as listed on the invitation.

Number of entries - as listed on the invitation.

Type of passport - TOURIST.

Name and reference number of the tourist group - as listed on the invitation.

Address of stay while in Russia - as listed on the invitation. Those who apply for a tourist visa are supposed to have booked a hotel in advance. This is why a name of a well-known hotel is always included in your invitation and indicated in Latin characters for your convenience. Please make sure to indicate the same hotel in your consulate application form.

Is any of your relatives a citizen of Russia - please note that the visa type is supposed to match the actual purpose of your visit. If you indicate that you have relatives in Russia, the consulate may want to make sure that the actual purpose of your trip is not a private visit but tourism. Additional documentation (such as hotel payment confirmation) may be required. In the same time, the experience shows that the answer to this question is never checked by the consulate.

Business visa application

Purpose of visit - BUSINESS.

Russian institution to be visited - please indicate the name of the invitation issuer. This information has been sent you along with an invitation.

Itinerary (cities to be visited) - as listed on the invitation.

Date of entry - as listed on the invitation.

Date of departure - as listed on the invitation.

Number of entries - as listed on the invitation.

Type of passport - TOURIST.

Name and reference number of the tourist group - non-applicable.