

GP Moscow Travel Guide

by Maria Zuyeva and Konstantin Palfinov

Hello Magic Judges!

GP Moscow welcomes you! This guide is written to make your stay in Russia easier. We tried to put in everything you could need in a foreign country (and not to make it 50+ pages long).

Enjoy your trip to Moscow! We are really proud to have all of you in our city. Have a good time!

If you have any questions, please, [contact](#) us: maria.zuyeva@gmail.com.

You can find additional travel tips [here](#) soon.

Official Facebook GP Moscow page: <http://www.facebook.com/GPMoscow2012>

See you in Moscow! ;)



So... What to know and expect in Moscow?

This part of the guide will tell you some general tips about staying in cyrillic country where no one speaks English. OK, it's not true. You can easily find someone on the street who speaks English well. But don't expect sellers, drivers, any other service workers to know English. Be ready to communicate using your hands (I mean pointing to the thing you want to buy!)

SIGNS TO KNOW

ТАКСИ (Taxi) - Taxi
МЕТРО (Metro) - Subway
ПЕРЕХОД (Perekhod) - Tunnel
ВХОД (Vkhod) - Entrance
ВЫХОД (Vykhod) - Exit
НЕТ ВХОДА (Net vkhoda) - No Entry
ПРОХОДА НЕТ (Prokhoda net) - No passing through
ОТКРЫТО (Otkryto) - Open
ЗАКРЫТО (Zakryto) - Closed
ТУАЛЕТ (Tualet) - WC/restroom
М - men's WC/restroom
Ж - women's WC/restroom

ОБМЕН ВАЛЮТ (Obmen valyut) - Currency Exchange
КАССА (Kassa) - Ticket office
ПОЛИЦИЯ (Politsiya) - Police

РЕСТОРАН (Restoran) - Restaurant
КАФЕ (Cafe) - Cafe
СУШИ (Sushi) - Sushi
БЛИНЫ (Bliny) - Pancakes
ПИЦЦА (Pizza) - Pizza
КВАС (Kvas) - Kvass
ПИВО (Pivo) - Beer
ВОДКА (Vodka) - Vodka

МАГАЗИН (Magazin) - Shop/Store (NOT a magazine :))
ПРОДУКТЫ (Prodookty) - Grocery store

CONVERSION TABLE

Imperial to Metric

1 inch = 2.54 centimeters
1 foot = 30 centimeters
1 mile = 1.6 kilometers
1 ounce = 28 grams
1 pound = 454 grams
1 pint = 0.6 liters
1 gallon = 4.6 liters

Metric to Imperial

1 centimeter = 0.4 inches
1 meter = 3 feet, 3 inches
1 kilometer = 0.6 miles
1 gram = 0.04 ounces
1 kilogram = 2.2 pounds
1 liter = 1.8 pints

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

The electrical current in Russia is 220 V.

WORDS/PHRASES TO KNOW:

ДА (da) - yes

НЕТ (net) - no

СПАСИБО (spasibo) - thank you

ПОЖАЛУЙСТА (pozhaluista) - "you're welcome", as a polite way to answer to "thank you", or "please" if you want to ask for something or so.

ИЗВИНИТЕ (izvinite) - excuse me / sorry

ПРИВЕТ (Privet) - Hi!

ПОКА (Poka) - Bye!

ЗДРАВСТВУЙТЕ (zdravstvuyte) - Hello (polite/formal way, used when talking to strangers)

ДО СВИДАНИЯ (do svidaniya) - Good bye (polite/formal way, used when talking to strangers)

ХОРОШО (Khorosho, or just say Horror show) - good (as saying that something is good, or as 'OK' to show you agree with something)

ЭТО (eto) - this

Дайте это (dayte eto) - give me this

Сколько стоит? (skolko stoit?) - How much does it cost?

Как пройти к...? (kak proyti k...?) - How to get to...?

IF YOU WANT TO BE SCARED BY RUSSIAN MAGIC TERMINOLOGY

СУДЬЯ (Sud'ya) - Do not remember this word, just use "Judge" :-)

СИЛА / АТАКА (Sila / Ataka) - words used to describe Power

ВЫНОСЛИВОСТЬ / ЗАЩИТА (Vynoslivost' / Zashchita) - words used to describe Toughness

ЦЕЛЬ (Tsel') - target

ДАВАЙ СЛЕДУЮЩУЮ (Davay sleduyushchuyu) - let's play next game (used as "I concede")

NUMBERS

1 adeen

2 dva

3 tree

4 chyetir-ye

5 pyat'

6 shest'

7 syem'

8 vosyem'

9 dyevyat'

10 dyesyat'

11 adeenatsat'

12 dvyenatsat'

13 treenatsat'

14 chyetirnatsat'

15 pyatnatsat'

16 shestnatsat'

17 syemnatsat'

18 vasyemnatsat'

19 dyevyatnatsat'

20 dvatsat'

100 sto

1000 tisyacha

TIPS TO KNOW:

Ask your flight attendant for an immigration card and fill in in your plane. You'll save a lot of time staying in passport check line if you get there earlier than all other passengers.

Have a passport and an immigration card with a hotel registration (they have to put a stamp on your registration card; ask for it) with you at any time.

Officially, all foreigners are supposed to register with OVIR, the Visa and Registration Department, within seven days of their arrival. Hotels can do this for guests. Please keep your arrival ticket / boarding pass if you plan to leave Russia within seven days.

Passports and visas are thoroughly checked at immigration desks. All visitors have to fill out a customs declaration form on arrival, which is available in various languages (some airlines hand them out on the plane). On the form you are asked to state how much currency you have and any valuables you may have with you. The form is rarely checked, but should be kept for the duration of your stay and handed back together with another declaration form at departure.

You can not pay here with euros or any other currency except rubles. It's about 42 rubles per euro.

Aeroport subway station, as well as Domodedovskaya, don't have anything in common with airports. :)

EASIEST WAYS TO FLY INTO THE CITY

There are 3 International Airports in Moscow: Sheremetyevo, Domodedovo and Vnukovo. All of them are connected with the city by 'Aeroexpress' trains (<http://www.aeroexpress.ru/en/>). They all will take you to the city centre (Circular subway line) in about 35-45 minutes, just pay attention to their schedule as they depart every half an hour with some exceptions. You can get to the airport the same way.

One-way 'Aeroexpress' trip will cost you 320 rubles (~8 eur). If you want to save money, you can ride a bus. It will cost you about 70 rubles (~1,75 euros) and it will bring you to the nearest subway station that is usual the last one situated about 20-30 minutes away from the Circular subway line. Be ready that bus drivers won't understand English though.

TOURNAMENT VENUE LOCATION

GP Moscow will be held at VDNKH (Exhibition Ground), at the 55th Pavilion called 'Electrifikatsiya' (Электрификация).

I don't recommend you to drive in Moscow. The easiest way to get to the venue is subway.

Subway station is called VDNKH and is located at the north part of orange line. If you're going from the city centre (in north direction), the exit is near first car. The exit you need has escalators (there are two exits from this station). If this won't help, look at the sign and go in the BBLQ direction (to the right on this sign):



When you go out of the station, take to the left and go towards big observation wheel, passing tram rails and monorail trains. You will see the main entrance. After entering the park, go straight, sometimes even when you think there is no way to go :)

(There are two attraction parks (to the left and to the right after entering the VDNKH territory): feel free to visit them in your free time. They don't ask money for entering: you pay for every single ride. Prices are around 150-300 rubles (3,5 - 7 eur), tickets are sold in ticket offices (КАССА).)



55th Pavilion (Tournament Venue)

A map of VDNKH territory is on the last page of this guide.

HOTELS

The nearest hotel to the VDNKH is the Cosmos Hotel (<http://www.hotelcosmos.ru/eng/>), but you can find another hotel according your request on www.booking.com. I also recommend to use <http://www.hostelbookers.com/hostels/russia/moscow/map/> to find hostels.



Sun - VDNKH main entrance (1.5 km from the venue, walking down the central alley of VDNKH)

Bed - Staff Hotel (Cosmos)

Train - Subway station

Make sure you realize it's 2 km by foot from the staff hotel to the venue and plan accordingly!

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM



Subway system is good in Moscow. Usually you can get wherever you want by it. The cost of one ride is 28 rubles (~0,7 eur). 5 rides will cost you about the same x5 (you save 5 rubles), 10 rides will save you 15 rubles. If you're not sure how many rides do you need and you don't mind staying in small lines, it's better to buy single rides.

<- Ticket machines look like this

Note: ticket machines and ticket offices in Moscow subway don't accept credit cards!

Subway is a pay as you enter service. You can change lines and travel in any direction until you leave the paid zone.

Monorail is a separate line and is paid for separately.

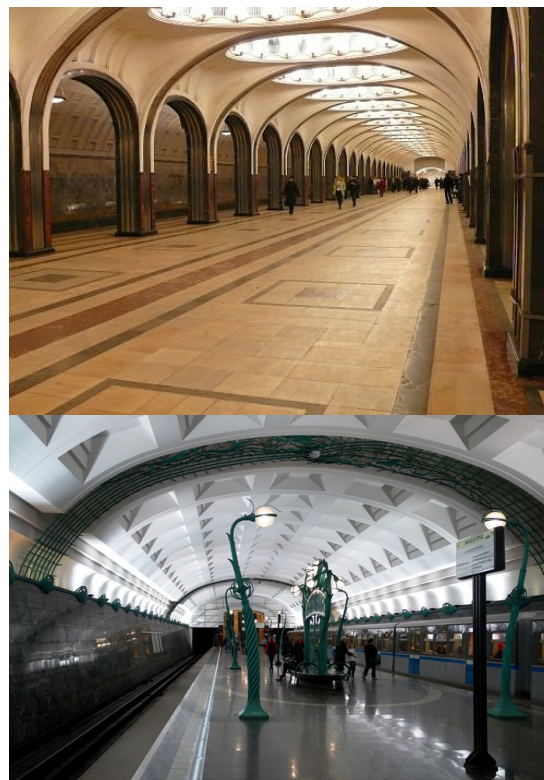
You can see the map here: <http://mosmetro.ru/flash/scheme01.html> (flash; click starting station and your destination and it will show you the time you'll spend and the route you'd better follow) or here: http://www.t-pro.ru/moscow/moscow_metro.gif

Aeroexpress trains from Sheremetyevo stop at Belorusskaya (Green / Circular line), from Vnukovo - at Kievskaya (Blue / Dark blue / Circular line), from Domodedovo - at Paveletskaya (Green / Circular line). You have to go out and find the Aeroexpress station, but it's located not far from the station. You'd better use radial line exits - these are closer to Aeroexpress stations.

When thinking of Moscow Subway, don't take it as a way to get somewhere only. Moscow Subway is one of the most beautiful subway in the world. Almost every station (especially in the part surrounded by Circular line) was designed to be unique and match its name and its interior. We'd strongly recommend you not only ride trains there, but at least look outside at stations or even get out of train and look at these 'underground palaces'. Don't forget to look up.

My favourite station is Vorob'evy Gory. It is located on the bridge over Moscow river, it's broad, bright and has some examples of Darwin museum exhibits.

Also outside there is a pier where you can get a ticket (400 rubles) and ride a water-bus to the city centre and back to the Vorob'evy Gory.



Some other stations you can find here (with a brief description):

<http://www.hotelclub.com/blog/most-beautiful-subway-stations-in-moscow/>

Come to Moscow to see all of these! ;)

FOOD AND DRINKS

Russia is famous for its bliny (БЛИНЫ), or pancakes, with different fillings (meat, mushrooms, caviar, apples, caramel...). You can find a lot of small kiosks selling pancakes in streets as well as at food courts in shopping malls. Just look for any sign saying БЛИНЫ. One of the famous fast-food restaurants that makes great pancakes is Teremok (ТЕРЕМОК).

Russian national food is also served in Ёлки-Палки ([Yolki-palki](#)) - a restaurant chain, you can find these in the city.

If you prefer pizza (пицца), or sushi (суши), or McDonalds (Макдоналдс) - you can always find a lot of these everywhere. Sushi and pizza are more popular here than Russian food, really.



Sightseeing in Moscow

All of the following places are mapped here: <http://www.leothehuman.pp.ru/files/Moscow-and-Kremlin.gif>

We'd recommend you to either print this map, or download it to your portable device.

MUSEUMS

M1. The Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts

Moscow's flagship gallery opened in 1912, and now has one of the most representative collection in Russia of foreign art dated from ancient times to modern days. The Museum of Private Collections across the street shows rotating exhibits of top quality and varying tastes.

<http://www.arts-museum.ru/index.php?lang=en>

Address: Metro Kropotkinskaya, 12, Volkhonka. **Map:** C5.

Open: 10:00-18:00, closed on Mondays.

M2. The State Tretyakov gallery

The largest collection of Russian art.

<http://www.tretykovgallery.ru/en/>

Address: Metro Tretyakovskaya, Novokuznetskaya or Polyanka, 10, Lavrushinsky Pereulok. **Map:** C5.

Open: 10:00-19:30, closed on Mondays

M3. The Memorial Museum of Cosmonautics

A museum complex in the capital of great space power will reflect the real history of space achievements, based on scientific facts and with the help of modern museum technologies. Over the museum you'll find the monument "To Conquerors of Space".

<http://www.space-museum.ru/> (official, Russian only), <http://www.russianmuseums.info/M329>

Address: Metro VDNKh, 111, Prospekt Mira. **Map:** D1.

Open: 11:00-19:00, closed on Mondays.

M4. State Darwin Museum

Museum of evolution in the world. There is a large display showing the variety of wildlife on earth, with animals from all climatic zones from the North Pole to the South.

<http://www.darwin.museum.ru/eng/>

Address: Metro Akademicheskaya, 57/1 Vavilova. **Map:** A7.

Open: 10:00-18:00, closed on Mondays, the last Friday of every Month, the 1st of January.

M5. Polytechnical Museum

Polytechnical museum is a scientific, enlightening and cultural-leisure centre of Russia, the main museum in history of science and technology.

<http://polymus.ru/> (official, Russian only), <http://www.russianmuseums.info/M303>

Address: Metro Kitay-Gorod or Lubyanka, 3/4, Novaya ploshchad (Entrance №1). **Map:** C4.

Open: 10:00-18:00, closed on Mondays, the last Friday of every Month.

M6. Zoological Museum of Moscow University

This is the second largest [zoological museum](#) in [Russia](#) (the largest is the [Zoological Museum](#) in St.Petersburg) and one of the twelve largest in the world.

<http://zmmu.msu.ru/eng/index.htm>

Address: Metro Okhotny Ryad, Biblioteka Lenina or Arbatskaya, 6, Bol'shaya Nikitskaya. **Map:** C4.

Open: 10:00-17:00, closed on Mondays, the last Tuesday of every Month.

M7. All-Russian Decorative - Applied and Folk Art Museum

A large collection of traditional Russian toys, famous hand-painted lacquered boxes, the unique pieces of furniture, porcelain and glassware from famous Russian factories and many others.

http://www.vmdpni.ru/news/eng_museum.htm

Address: Metro Mayakovskaya, Novoslobodskaya or Tsvetnoy Bulvar, 3, Delegatskaya. **Map:** C3.

Open: Mo, We, Fr, Su - 10:00-18:00, Th - 10:00-21:00, Sa - 11:00-19:00, closed on Tuesdays, the last Monday of every Month.

M8. The Cold War Museum ("Bunker-42 on Taganka")

Bunker-42 was built in 50s for defense from nuclear attack. It is a large object situated in 65 meters underground in the heart of Moscow which territory contains an interactive museum.

<http://www.bunker42.com/index.php?lang=en>

Address: Metro Taganskaya, 11, 5th Kotelnicheskij pereulok. **Map:** D5.

Open: 10:30-18:30, all excursions need to be booked on-line or by phone.

M9. Zurab Tsereteli Museum-Studio

Great collection of works by Zurab Tsereteli, the most famous modern Moscow painter and sculptor.

<http://www.tsereteli.ru/eng/mmztsabout.php>

Address: Metro Barrikadnaya or Krasnopresnenskaya, 15c1, Bolshaya Gruzinskaya. **Map:** B4.

Open: Mo, Tu, We, Fr, Sa, Su - 11:00-19:00, Th - 13:00-21:00, closed on the last Monday of every Month.

M10. Moscow Museum of Railway Transportation History

Open air exhibition of steam, diesel and electric locomotives, different track repair technics, snow-removal vehicles and vans.

<http://www.internationalsteam.co.uk/trains/russia14.htm> (review)

Address: Metro Rizhskaya, 1, Ploshchad Rizhskogo vokzala. **Map:** C3.

Open: 10:00-16:00, closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

GREAT PLACES OF MOSCOW

P1. The Cathedral of Christ the Saviour

One of the most imposing and controversial buildings in Russia, resurrected The Cathedral of Christ the Saviour is the tallest Orthodox church. The original church was built by contributions from people all over Russia to commemorate the fallen, and to give thanks to God for Russia's being saved from devastation by Napoleon's invasion in 1812.

Address: Metro Kropotkinskaya, 15, Volkhonka. **Map:** C5.

Open for excursion: 9:00-18:00.

<http://www.xxc.ru/english/index.htm>

P2. Novodevichy Convent

One of the most beautiful Moscow convents, founded at the beginning of 16th century, for 400 years the Novodevichy Convent was the witness and the participant of important historical events, connected with the names of Ivan the Terrible, Boris Godunov, Sofia and Peter I.

Address: Metro Sportivnaya, 1, Novodevichiy proezd. **Map:** A6.

Open for excursion: 10:00-17:00, closed on Tuesdays, the first Monday of every Month.

<http://www.moscow-russia-insiders-guide.com/moscow-novodevichy-convent.html> (review)

P3. Park Pobedy (Victory Park)

The Memorial Victory Complex on [Poklonnaya Gora](#) covers more than 48.000 square meters. The main fountain-lined avenue leads from Metro station to the central Nike (the Greek goddess of victory) Monument by Zurab Tsereteli. Its height is 141,8 meters, 10cm for every day of the War. Behind the obelisk there is The Central Museum of the Great Patriotic War (the Russian name for World War II). Walking through the Park you can find many monuments and open air exhibitions displaying weapons, tanks and armored vehicles, fighters and helicopters, parts of submarines and warships. The complex also includes an Orthodox Church, a Mosque and a Synagogue reflecting that the struggle against Fascists united the people of different confessions.

On opposite side of the Metro station you can find the [Triumphal Arch](#), and The Museum-panorama the [Borodino Battle](#).

Address: Metro Park Pobedy. **Map:** out of map (A5 is nearest).

<http://www.poklonnayagora.ru/>

P4. Moscow Zoo

The unique collection of the Zoo numbers over 7,000 species. The animals are kept in the open-air cages and pavilions designed in accordance with the natural habitat.

Address: Metro Barrikadnaya or Krasnopresnenskaya, 1, Bolshaya Gruzinskaya. **Map:** B4.

Open: summer 10:00-20:00, winter 10:00-17:00, closed on Mondays.

<http://www.moscowzoo.ru/defengl.asp>

P5. Vorob'evy Gory (Sparrow Hills)

There is an observation point on Kosygina street and newly-wed couples traditionally come here to have their photograph taken against the panorama.

You can also ride a water-bus here.

Address: Metro Vorob'evy Gory. **Map:** A6.

<http://www.moscow-russia-insiders-guide.com/moscow-sparrow-hills.html> (review)

P6. Ostankino TV Tower

Amazing panorama of Moscow and nearest is opened from the observation deck, which is located on height 337 meters.

Address: Monorail station Telesentr, entrance №2, 15/2, Akademika Korolyova (Excursion complex of Ostankino TV Tower). **Map:** C1.

Open: 10:00-20:00.

http://www.tvtower.ru/52_SmotrovyaPl/eng/

P7. Rabochiy i Kolhoznitsa Monument

The famous sculptural composition Rabochiy (worker) i Kolhoznitsa (kolkhoz woman) Monument is one of the most famous symbol of Soviet Union. You can also visit the museum which dedicated to the works of monument authors - architect Boris Iofan and sculptor Vera Mukhina.

Address: Metro VDNKh, 123B, Prospekt Mira. **Map:** D1.

Open: Tu – 10:00-21:00, We-Su - 10:00-20:00, closed on Mondays.

<http://mvc-rik.ru/events.xhtml?pageParam=1&lang=1>

P8. Yuri Gagarin Monument

The 42,5 meters statue of probably the most known Russian in the world – Yuri Gagarin, first man in space – looks like human-rocket taking off.

Address: Metro Leninsky Prospekt, Ploshchad Gagarina. **Map:** B6.

<http://havecamerawilltravel.com/yuri-gagarin-monument-moscow>

P9. Lenin Monument

The last Lenin Statue in Moscow which was erected in 1985 shows the Soviet founder with a crowd of enthusiastic followers at his feet preparing to build a nation.

Address: Metro Oktyabrskaya, 1, Leninsky prospekt. **Map:** C6.

<http://prv2.lori-images.net/pamyatnik-leninu-na-oktyabrskoi-ploshchadi-v-moskve-0000959838-preview.jpg>

P10. Peter the Great Statue

Statue was designed by Zurab Tsereteli to commemorate 300 years of the Russian Navy. At 98 meters, it is the tallest statue in Moscow (and eighth tallest statue in the world). By the way – it was also ranked at "The World's Top 10 Ugliest Buildings and Monuments" by VirtualTourist.com.

Address: Metro Kropotkinskaya, Beresnevskaya naberejnaya. **Map:** C5.

<http://www.moscow-russia-insiders-guide.com/peter-the-great-statue-moscow.html> (review)

P11. Bolshoi Theatre

The Bolshoi Theatre, which for many years now has been regarded as one of Moscow's main sights, is a symbol of Russia for all time. On 28th October 2011, the Bolshoi was re-opened after an extensive six year renovation, included restoring acoustics to the original quality (which had been lost during the Soviet Era), as well as restoring the original Imperial decor of the Bolshoi. Every visitor in Russia can see this building - its iconic neoclassical facade is depicted on the Russian 100-ruble banknote...

Address: *Metro Teatrnaya, 1, Teatrnaya ploshchad.* **Map:** C4.

<http://www.bolshoi.ru/en/>

ROCK AROUND THE KREMLIN

The Moscow Kremlin – main fortress of the Tsars, headquarters of the Soviet Union and now the residence of the Russian president – is the real heart of Moscow. There are so many sights in the Kremlin and around, therefore I need a separate chapter for all this places of interest.

It is easy to get to the Kremlin by metro: Borovitskaya, Biblioteka Imeni Lenina and Aleksandrovskiy Sad (this three are nearest stations to the ticket office and main Kremlin entrance at Kutafya Tower), Arbatskaya, Teatralnaya, Ploschad Revolyutsii, Okhotniy Ryad.

The [Kremlin](#) is a magnificent architectural ensemble with monumental walls and towers, golden-domed cathedrals and ancient palaces. Here you also can see the Arsenal and the Senate, admires the Tsar Bell and the Tsar Cannon, famous masterpieces of the Russian casting, and visits the famous treasure-house – the Armoury Chamber.

Then walk to north through the Aleksandrovskiy Sad ([Alexander's Garden](#)) [K1], along the Kremlin wall. On the left hand side you can see building of the [Moscow Manege](#) [K2], on the right hand side – obelisk [K3], erected in 1913 in honor of 300 years of the Romanov dynasty and “ruined” grotto [K4], the reminder of ruined cities those Napoleon left behind in 1812.

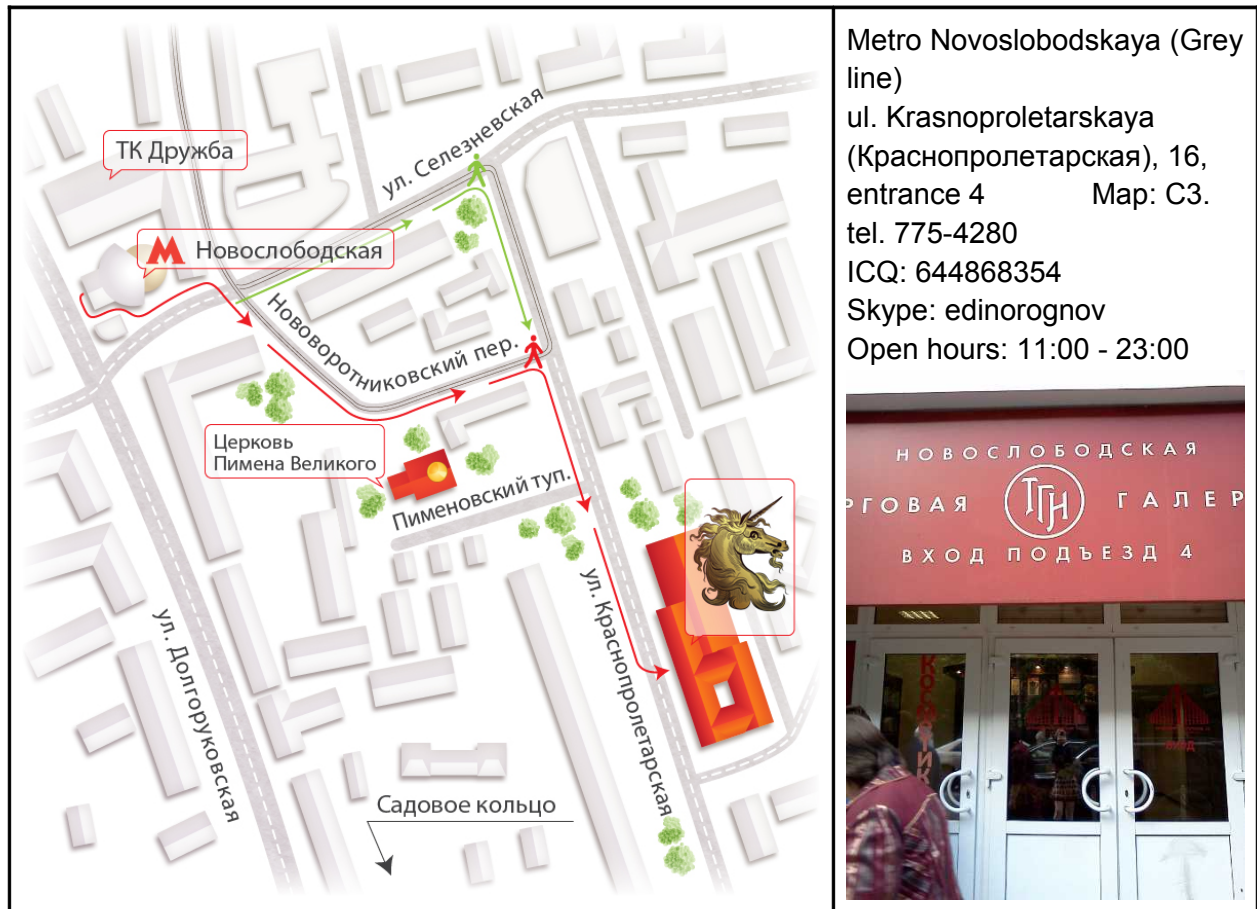
Next interesting spot is underground Shopping Centre “[Okhotniy Ryad](#)” [K5] on Manezhnaya ploschad. You can find here free Wi-Fi and cheap meal in food court on the bottom floor, and then take a picture of fountains and playful statues from Russian fairy tales that ring the building. And don't forget to walk on the roof!

Let's come back to the Kremlin wall. Not so far from Middle Arsenal Tower you can find small memorial complex for Great Patriotic War (WW2), including eternal flame and [Tomb of Unknown Soldier](#) [K6]. If you catch the right time, you can see The Guard Change Ceremony.

Then exit from Aleksandrovskiy Sad through the big beautiful cast iron gate and look at the [monument of Marshal Georgy Zhukov](#) [K7], situated in the neighborhood of [State Historical Museum](#) [K8]. You can reach the [Red Square](#) by walking along the right hand side of the building, but I recommend walking along the left hand side and drop a coin in the mark of Moscow Centre [K9]. On the Red Square look at the [GUM Shopping Centre](#) [K10], then walk along the Kremlin wall. This wall also is a [VIP Cemetery](#) [K11] with tombs of Stalin, Gagarin, etc. The next great sight is the [Lenin Mausoleum](#) [K12], that serves as the current resting place of Vladimir Lenin. Then walk forward to the tallest tower of Kremlin – [Spasskaya](#) (Saviour's) [K13], and then to the [Saint Basil's Cathedral](#) [K14], aka “Cathedral of the Protection of Most Holy Theotokos on the Moat”. It commemorates the capture of Kazan and Astrakhan by army of Ivan the Terrible. Near the Cathedral you can see Monument to [Minin and Pozharsky](#) [K15] and a stone platform for the proclamation of the tsar's edicts, known as [Lobnoye Mesto](#) [K16]. After sightseeing I recommend to go down to the Moscow river and walk on Kremlevskaya naberejnaya along the Kremlin wall to Bolshoy Kamenny Most (Big Stone Bridge) [K17]. You can take a great pictures of the Kremlin from this bridge as the cherry on the top of wonderful trip around the Kremlin.

LOCAL GAME STORES

1. White Unicorn (Belyi Edinorog)



2. Gold Unicorn (Zolotoy Edinorog)

Metro Krasnopresnenskaya (Red line)

per. Bolshoy Predtechenskiy (Большой Предтеченский), 6

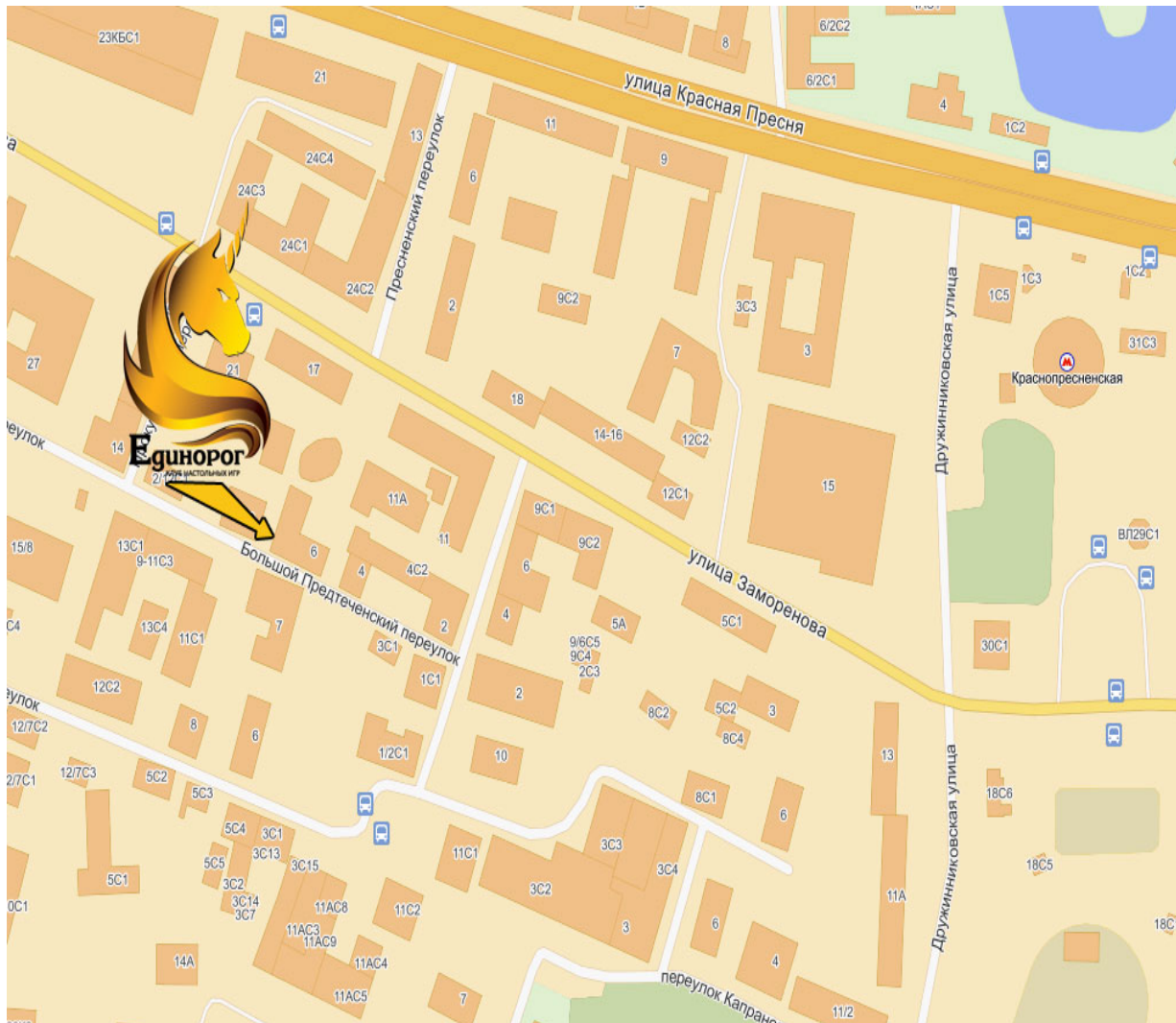
Map: B4.

tel. 8-925-378-0313

ICQ: 604822943

Open hours: 11:00 - 23:00

This store doesn't sell singles, but you can play FNM here.



MOSCOW SUBWAY MAP



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VDNKH territory

