The Moscow Times Yekaterinburg Guide FIFA WORLD **CUP** 2018 LOCAL TIPS FOR GOOD EATS WHAT'S ON **EXPLORE** WELCOME THE YELTSIN CENTER CAPITAL (CRAFT themoscowtimes.com



The sign of a real man

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Yekaterinburg Guide

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WELCOME!



Founded in 1723, Yekaterinburg is Russia's fourth-largest city, with a fascinating history and plenty to keep curious visitors occupied.

J

ust like St. Petersburg to the north, Yekaterinburg was founded by Peter the Great. If St. Petersburg was a "window to Europe," then Yekaterinburg was planned as a "window to Asia."

he first human settlements appeared in the area around 8,000 B.C., but it was only in the early 17th century that it officially became Russian territory; in the latter half of the 17th century, a village was founded near Lake Shartash.

n 1720, Peter the Great sent his emissary Vasily Tatishchev to oversee mining factories in the Urals. Tatishchev quickly antagonized the Demidovs, a family of influential







ekaterinburg gradually became a center of mining and metalworks. By the end of the 19th century, it was also an important railway junction. Yekaterinburg was one of the first cities to accept the October Revolution in 1917, but the city changed hands several times during the Russian Civil War.

industrialists, and was replaced by a German, Wilhelm de Gennin. Tatishchev and Gennin are considered Yekaterinburg's founding fathers and a statue of the two stands in the very heart of the city.

ekaterinburg's official founding year is 1723, when the new iron factory opened on the bank of lset River. The town was named after Catherine I, Peter the Great's wife, who became Russia's first empress after her husband's death.



ekaterinburg became a major evacuation center during World War II and this solidified the city's status as the industrial capital of the Urals.

n April 1918 Tsar Nicholas II and his family were moved to Yekaterinburg by the Bolsheviks. They stayed in a house in the center of the city, which formerly belonged to the Ipatiev merchant family. The basement of that house was where the tsar and his family were executed in July 1918. The Ipatiev House was demolished in 1977 and the Church on the Blood was built on the site in the early 2000s and is now a major place of pilgrimage.

n 1923 Yekaterinburg became the capital of the newly established Ural region and in 1924 the city was renamed Sverdlovsk after prominent Bolshevik Yakov Sverdlov, who fell ill and died in 1919. Sverdlov spent time living in the city but he also had another connection with Yekaterinburg: He signed the tsar's death sentence.

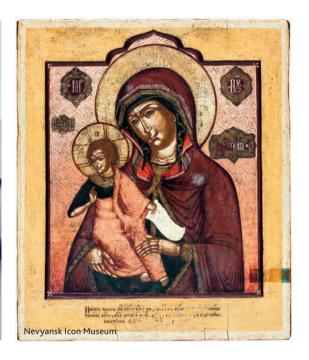
n the 1930s, industrial development of the city started in earnest. Uralmash, a heavy machine production facility that took up an entire district, was completed in 1933. The Uralmash district and other neighborhoods in the city center were built in accordance with constructivist ideas about communal housing.

uring World War II, Yekaterinburg became a major evacuation center, and more than 50 factories were moved there from the western territories of the Soviet Union. This solidified the city's status as the industrial capital of the Urals. In 1967 the city's population reached 1 million people.

n 1976 Boris Yeltsin became the first secretary of the Sverdlovsk Region Committee of the Communist Party. Yeltsin stayed in the position until 1985, when he went on to serve on Moscow's Committee and eventually became Russia's first president. Sverdlovsk was renamed Yekaterinburg in 1991, but the surrounding region is still called Sverdlovsk region.

fter the collapse of the Soviet Union, a deep economic recession led to chaos in Yekaterinburg. A gang war ensued, with several organized crime groups fighting for control of Uralmash. In the 2000s the city made a recovery and its economy continues to perform relatively well. Yekaterinburg is now the fourth-largest city in Russia, with a population of almost 1.5 million.







YEKATERINBURG'S

MUST-SEE SIGHTS

G

ot time between matches and fancy exploring the city? Don't miss these sightseeing hotspots!

Yekaterinburg Museum of Fine Arts

The Yekaterinburg Museum of Fine Arts is considered part of Historical Square, even though it is located on the opposite side of the Iset River. The building started out as a Yekaterinburg factory hospital in the 18th century, became a retirement home in the 19th century and then a museum in the 1980s. Two separate buildings were connected by a roof, creating a covered courtyard, which now also serves as an exhibition hall. The courtyard hall houses a replica of the elaborate Kasli Iron Pavilion, a collection of cast-iron sculptures that won an award at the Paris Expo in 1900. Apart from wrought iron, other local crafts are well-represented, includ-

ing the famous painted trays from Tagil and icons from Nevyansk (see more about them below). There's also a good collection of 19th century Russian paintings, as well as excellent ever-changing contemporary art exhibitions.

OPEN Tues. - Thurs., 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Fri. - Sun.,11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

TICKETS 300 rubles

Ulitsa Voyevodina, 5

emii.ru

Historical Square

he Historical Square (Istorichesky Skver) is where the city's life began, back in 1723, as a metalworks factory. The factory is long gone, but several of its buildings have been turned into museums: in particular, the Museum of Architecture and Design and the Nature Museum. You can also check out the original water tower, built in the 1880s, which is now part of the local history museum. Presiding over the square is the statue of the city's founders, Vasily Tatishchev and Wilhelm de Gennin.

Historical Square

Nevyansk Icon Museum

evyansk is a small town in the Sverdlovsk region, known as the base of the Demidovs, a family of powerful >

media; courtesy of press offices. Yekaterinburg museum of fine arts, nevyansk iconmuse









industrialists. It's famous for two things: the leaning bell tower of the local church (constructed in the style of the Leaning Tower of Pisa) and Nevyansk icons. Produced by Old Believers, an ancient branch of Russian Orthodoxy, Nevyansk icons are famous for their level of detail. One of the largest collections belongs to local politician and current mayor Yevgeny Roizman. If you consider yourself a connoisseur of Orthodox religious art, it's a must-see. If you don't, give it a miss as there's hardly any signage or explanations in Russian — and none in English.

OPEN daily 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. TICKETS 150 rubles Ulitsa Engelsa, 15 ekaterinburg.guide

The Church on the Blood

he Church on the Blood (Khram na Krovi), also known as the Church of All Saints, is built on the site of the execution of the Romanov imperial family, including Tsar Nicholas II, his wife Alexandra and all of their children. The execution took place on the night of July 16, 1918 in the basement of Ipatiev House, so called because before the revolution it belonged to an engineer by the name of Ipatiev. Ipatiev House was ironically turned into a museum during Soviet times, but was demolished in 1977 by Boris Yeltsin, to avoid making it a site for monarchist pilgrimages. The church was built on the site in the early 2000s, and is a Byzantine-style five-domed church, which commemorates the sainthood of the Romanov family. There is also a museum dedicated to the family on the site, which is full of artifacts relating to Ipatiev House and the royal family. The bright blue Ascension Church (Voznesenskaya tserkov) is nearby and also worth a look. Built in the late 18th century, it is the oldest church in the city. OPEN daily 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

TICKETS Free admission Ulitsa Tsarskaya, 10 hram-na-krovi.cerkov.ru

Yeltsin Center

ight smack in the middle of Yekaterinburg City — a cluster of skyscrapers on the shore of the City Pond — stands the Yeltsin Center. The center is much more than a history museum; it's an enormous complex with a contemporary art gallery, an independent bookstore that doubles as an education center, a theater, a concert hall, and several shops and restaurants. Billed as the only museum in the country to celebrate the democracy and freedom of the 1990s, it focuses on uole-museum.ru

the events of that decade, chronicling Boris Yeltsin's rise to power during perestroika and his two terms as the first president of Russia. **OPEN** daily 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., closed Monday **TICKETS** 200 rubles

Ulitsa Borisa Yeltsina, 3 veltsin.ru

Regional History Museum

he main branch of the Regional History Museum is housed in what used to be the club of a large constructivist residential complex for the NKVD (Soviet secret police), called Gorodok Chekistov by locals. The centerpiece of the exhibition is the oldest wooden statue ever found — the 11,000-yearold Shigir Idol. Unearthed in the late 19th century, its age was recently confirmed by radiocarbon dating. The rest of the museum is devoted to the traditions of the various ethnic groups populating the region, as well as the history of Yekaterinburg. Don't miss the staircase, which is one of the most memorable constructivist elements in Yekaterinburg.

OPEN Wed., Fri., Sat., Sun. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thurs. 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.

TICKET 300 rubles Ulitsa Malysheva, 46

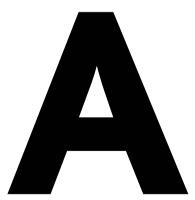


YEKATERINBURG'S

HIDDEN TREASURES

GORODOK CHEKISTOV

hen authorities decided in the 1920s to make Yekaterinburg the industrial powerhouse of the Urals, the city had to grow — and fast. Several prominent architects were dispatched from Moscow and as constructivism was in vogue at the time, Yekaterinburg became the capital of the movement. Whole neighborhoods were razed to the ground and new ones were built from scratch; many of the neighborhoods were named after their residents' professions: town of workers, town of lawyers, and, most famous of all, town of NKVD (secret police) specialists, called "gorodok chekistov," with buildings 5-10 stories high. The most prominent of the buildings is the white horseshoe-shaped Iset hotel (Prospekt Lenina, 69, Bldg. 1). In its current dilapidated state, only some parts of the building can be used, but there are plans for a complete restoration. After



lready seen
Yekaterinburg's tourist
hotspots? Craving
something a little more
off the beaten track?
Here are some hidden
treasures that only
the locals know about.

a contemporary art biennale took place there a few years ago, the Iset hotel became one of the new symbols of the city.

METENKOV HOUSE

dommetenkova.ru

etenkov House is a small photography museum in a wooden mansion that once belonged to Veniamin Metenkov, one of the city's first professional photographers. There is no permanent collection, but there are always two or three temporary exhibitions on view, with everything from photos by Metenkov himself to cutting-edge contemporary art. Don't miss the antique camera store on the first floor.

OPEN noon to 8 p.m.; closed Monday TICKETS 50-150 rubles

Vulitsa Karla Libknekhta, 36



OTHER CONSTRUCTIVIST

ince Yekaterinburg is unofficially "the capital of constructivism," there are plenty of other architectural gems. Take an afternoon and just walk around to see what the city has to offer. Across the street from the Iset hotel is the City Center shopping mall, which used to combine the Construction Workers' Club and Sverdlovsk Film Studio. Today the whole interior is made up of various stores, but you can still admire

the stunning exterior (Prospekt Lenina, 50). Further down the street, there's Dom Pechati (House of Press), formerly the headquarters and printing house for several local newspapers; today it is the home of a night club, as well as several bars, restaurants and shops. The courtyard has some stunning graffiti, by both local and visiting artists, while the exterior sports the famous constructivist "ribbon" windows (Prospekt Lenina, 49). Two other buildings worth checking out



on Prospekt Lenina are the Central Post Office (#39), where the first two floors are accessible to the public, and the Oblispolkom building (#34), the former home of the local Communist Party executive committee. Right across the City Pond from the Yeltsin Center is the sprawling Dynamo sports complex, built in the early 1930s (Ulitsa Vasilia Yeryomina, 12). Dynamo includes both a sports club and a stadium and looks like a blue and white ship standing in the docks.

THE CITY IS
TRULY A DREAM
FOR LOVERS OF
ARCHITECTURE,
THERE IS
PLENTY HERE
TO KEEP THEM
OCCUPIED.

DON'T MISS URALMASH— A CITY WITHIN THE CITY, AND A FASCINATING GLIMPSE INTO LIFE IN THE SOVIET UNION.

UNIT F

nit F (Yacheyka F) is a tiny museum that takes up just one apartment in a constructivist Gorpromural building designed by Moisei Ginzburg, the architect behind one of constructivism's most iconic buildings — the Narkomfin building in Moscow. Since Narkomfin is closed, Gorpromural is the only place you can view Ginzburg's ingenious two-story apartment designs, walk down the corridor occupied by local painters and even access the roof if you're lucky. The Unit F museum is open all day on Saturdays and by arrangement the rest of the week. You can find plenty of background on Gorpromural construction, as well as stories of its original residents, many of whom were repressed during Stalin's purges.

TICKETS Call ahead or send a message on Facebook
Ulitsa Malysheva, 21/1
(dial 38 on intercom)
facebook.com/FlatUnitF

KAMENNIYE PALATKI

amenniye Palatki (Stone Tents) on the outskirts of Yekaterinburg is the Ural region's very own Stonehenge. Reachable by trams 13 and 15 (on Ulitsa Vysotskogo, 11), these rock formations are located in a park that stretches all the way to Lake

Shartash. The area around the lake is where the remains of the first prehistoric settlements were found. The jury's still out on how much of Stone Tents was formed by nature and how much by human hands, or whether it had a religious purpose. There's still debate even about the name — whether it refers to "tents" or the word polati, which means "bunk bed." This is a popular picnic spot with locals and if the weather is good, spend a few hours wandering around the forest. It's also a popular biking area and there are bike

DER ST. TELENS ST. TEL



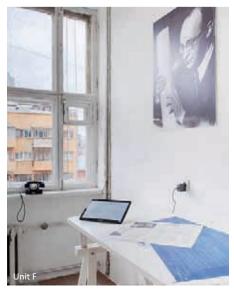
rental facilities — be sure to bring your passport. If you fancy a dip to cool off, the lake is safe for swimming.

URALMASH

ralmash is a city within the city. It's a heavy machine production facility that takes up an entire district, and was completed in 1933. Here, constructivist ideas about communal housing and living were fully imple-

mented. The symbol of Uralmash is the White Tower (Ulitsa Bakinskikh Komissarov, 2a, Bldg. 1) along-legged water tower that looks like something out of "Star Wars." Other interesting buildings include a combination factory-kitchen (a constructivist term for a self-sufficient cafeteria) and a cultural center (Bulvar Kultury, 3). About half of the building was destroyed by a fire, but the rest is accessible to visitors.

Another derelict building is Hotel Madrid, which looks like a constructivist palace, with decorated columns and peeling burnt Sienna paint (Ulitsa Mashinostroitelei, 4). All of these buildings are within walking distance of the Uralmash metro station.





ooking for somewhere to watch the match while you're in the city? Look no further.









YEKATERINBURG'S

SPORTS BARS

RATSKELLER

atskeller means "city hall cellar" in German and there's a traditional "ratskeller" pub in almost every town in Germany. The Yekaterinburg version of a ratskeller is also located in the basement of the local city hall. Ratskeller is a great spot to watch football while sipping on a grapefruit-flavored beer and snacking on koryushka (fish from the Baltic Sea).

Ulitsa 8 Marta, 8b

2 THE OPTIMIST BALKAN FOOD AND FOOTBALL

ore of a restaurant than a bar, The Optimist's menu focuses on Balkan cuisine. Try shopska salad with brynza, a white brine cheese (310 rubles), homemade sausages (from 445 rubles) or veshalitsa (pork loin, at 470 rubles). There are several beers on tap, too, including Guinness, Mort Subite and Paulaner (from 200 rubles).



Prospekt Lenina, 50 theoptimist.ru

BAR OGONEK PREMIUM-CLASS FOOTBALL

gonek literally means
"tiny fire," but going to an
"ogonek" means to going
to a little party. It's also the name
of a magazine that was immensely
popular during perestroika. Ogonek
positions itself a premium bar with
decent prices, and its distinctive
features include quality leather
sofas and waiters wearing bow ties.
The walls are covered with posters
of politicians and various media
personalities, including Edward
Snowden. Try salad with chicken

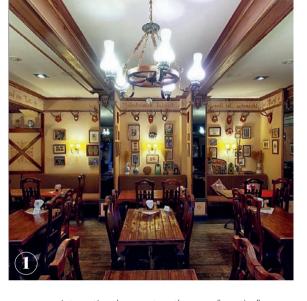












an international menu, too: there are "creative" burgers (try the one with deer for 400 rubles), as well as pasta and pizza. There are also several beers on tap, make sure you don't miss the local specialty Chuck Norris beer (from 130 rubles). When will you have the chance to try it again?

Ulitsa Mamina-Sibiryaka, 101 vk.com/chucknorrisbar

liver (420 rubles) or lamb tongues grilled in a special Josper charcoal oven (820 rubles) and chase it down with the bar's specialty: a homemade sea buckthorn vodka infusion (250 rubles).

Ulitsa Engelsa, 36a barogonek.ru

THE YANKEE BAR

n short, this is an American-style bar with food. There are burgers (including "the Urals burger" at 330 rubles), fries and chicken wings. The selection of craft beer is also extensive: from Yankee Bar's own specialty beer (from 140 rubles) to local craft beer and some imports

(from 220 rubles). You can also watch the game on one of the three TV screens or play one on a games console. Fun fact: the bar's windows face the local police station.

Ulitsa Tolmacheva, 25

5 CHUCK NORRIS

xploiting the mysterious fascination that Russians have with this B-list American actor, Chuck Norris is full of references to his various martial arts films and TV series. Waiters even have bandages stuck to their noses, as if they were just in a fight. Chuck Norris has

TELEVIZOR CRAFT BEER AND FOOTBALL

elevizor is located in the basement of a small business center on busy Ulitsa Radishcheva, and it's a favorite spot for local football fans. There's a TV set at the bar, which broadcasts mostly football and hockey matches, and the interior design is basic and straightforward: a bar counter, several tables, banners, and different kinds of memorabilia devoted to local football clubs. The beer selection is where things get interesting — Televizor has everything from Heineken to a full stock of locally brewed Jaws beer.

Ulitsa Radishcheva, 4
vk.com/bartelevizor







RUSSIA'S CAPITAL OF CRAFT

ekaterinburg has a thriving craft bar scene. If you're tired of the run-of-the-mill sports bars and fancy something a little different, try our suggestions.

SPYASHCHAYA SOBAKA

CONSTRUCTIVISM MEETS CRAFT BEER

ne of the newest trendy craft bars in Yekaterinburg is "Spyashchaya Sobaka" (Sleeping Dog) located at the edge of the Gorodok Chekistov. Positioning itself as "a quiet craft bar," it has a rather small interior, and the walls are covered with old Soviet posters and photographs. All of the beers are limited edition and from microbreweries. Ask for an IPA called EB Nikolayevich — a reference to Boris Yeltsin, with initials mixed up so it sounds like a Russian curse word. The main advantage of this place is the door in the floor, which leads to the expansive basements of Gorodok Chekistov. You can ask the staff to open the door to have a peek, or sign up for a proper tour.

Ulitsa Pervomaiskaya, 40 facebook.com/Sleepdogbar



A BAR AND A BREWERY

rott is a small brewery with a bar located on the first floor of the Dom Pechati (House of Press) constructivist masterpiece. It makes a range of brews, from traditional IPAs and lagers to more interesting



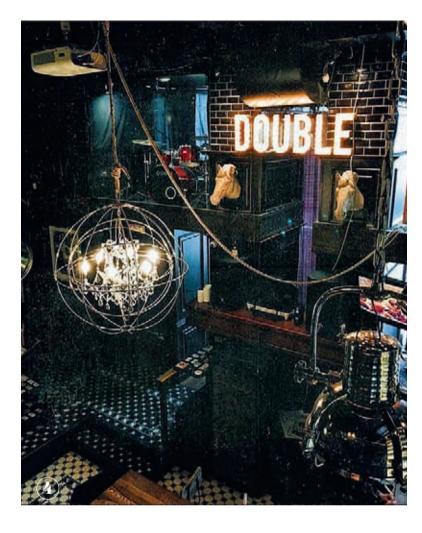
seasonal experiments like the fruity "Clockwork Orange" made with blood orange juice. The food is supposedly Scandinavian, but apart from a few smorrebrods (open-faced sandwiches), it's your regular pub grub: burgers, fried cheese balls and kebabs. For a grand finale, try some of the homemade infusions (from 100 rubles).

Prospekt Lenina, 49 grottbar.ru

3 NELSON SAUVIN

HOT SPOT FOR YOUNG

elson Sauvin seems to be the favorite spot for creative industry workers in Yekaterinburg. Named after special hops native to New Zealand,







Nelson Sauvin has two floors with panoramic windows and much of the furniture is by local designers. Nelson has two sets of taps: one for Russian beer, one for foreign beer. Jaws brews start from 100 rubles while imports start from around 200 rubles. There's also a special menu for cheese, all produced at regional dairy farms.

Ulitsa Malysheva, 21/4

DOUBLE GRILL & BAR

ore of a restaurant than a bar, it's located at the back of the city hall building, with an industrial interior, leather couches, autographs from local rock stars and memorabilia on the walls. There's bottled local Jaws beer, as well as several imports on tap (from 200 rubles). The food is great at Double: there's everything from burgers (from 490 rubles) to snow crab tartare (350 rubles).

Ulitsa 8 Marta, 8b

5 JAWSSPOT

aws is the company that began the craft beer revolution in the Urals and today it's one of the most

popular brewers in Russia — it has bars not only in the Urals, but also in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Located in the town of Zarechny in the Sverdlovsk region, Jaws was named after a big wave surfing break in Hawaii, which itself was named after everyone's favorite sharkthemed horror movie. Jawsspot in Yekaterinburg is located right next to the House of Press, and it is quite small and crowded, decorated with various pieces of surfing memorabilia. Try one of the original Jaws brews (from 150 rubles) with witty names like Nuclear Laundry IPA or Looking for a Human. There are about a dozen other beers on tap and some bar snacks as well. If you like what you see, consider a trip to the brewery itself, where they organize excursions for serious beer fans every weekend.

Ulitsa Turgeneva, 3 jawsbeer.ru

6 LAVKRAFT

FOR THOSE WHO "LOVE CRAFT"

alk through the coffee shop called "Coffee Box" on the first floor and climb the stairs to get to "Lavkraft" or "Lovecraft," if you like. No, it's nothing to do with American horror fiction writer H.P. Lovecraft, it's a small bar/beer store with white walls, a wooden bar stand and shelves upon shelves of bottles. The bar offers customers a wide range of both local and imported beer. Sip on a Belgian brew and enjoy watching the crowds go by on the busy Ulitsa Malysheva. Or have a Jaws while playing on a game console. It's up to you, but whatever you do, you're sure to have a good time at this place.

Ulitsa Malysheva, 31b vk.com/lovecraft_ekb





YEKATERINBURG **GOOD EATS**

LOOKING FOR THE BEST PLACES TO EAT IN THE CITY? LOOK NO FURTHER.



meli Suneli is a Georgian restaurant,

the Caucasus region and located right

around the corner from Iset Hotel. They serve

everything from khachapuri (a kind of cheese

pizza, of which there are several from different

regions of Georgia; from 230 rubles) to khinkali

named after a popular spice specific to

everything in between: satsivi (chicken in walnut sauce, 330 rubles), spicy veal soup kharcho (360 rubles) or pkhali (chopped or minced vegetables with nuts, from 205 rubles).

(Georgian dumplings, 90 rubles per piece) and

Prospekt Lenina, 69/10 hmeli.ru

FABRIKA KUKHNYA

TRADITIONAL PELMENI

ekaterinburg is famous for its Uralskie pelmeni and the first floor of the Iset Hotel once housed a place called exactly that: Uralskie Pelmeni. It was bought by the ubiquitous Ginza restaurant company and is now called Fabrika Kukhnya — a fitting reference to a factory-kitchen, or a communal cafeteria. Try some of the Uralskie pelmeni (169 rubles) or dumplings with pike (159 rubles). There's also Yekaterinburg-style borshch (89 rubles) and other cafeteria staples like chicken Kiev (139 rubles) or pilaf (99 rubles).

Prospekt Lenina, 69/1 fabrikakuhnyaekb.ru

PAPA CARLO

BEST COFFEE

apa Carlo is one of the best alternative places for coffee in a city that takes the drink rather seriously. Hario V60, aeropress, chemex (from 150 rubles) or your plain old flat white (160 rubles) — they have it all and the quality is superb. If you are hungry, there are bagel sandwiches and some desserts.

Ulitsa Tolmacheva, 17 vk.com/papacarlocoffee

7AMFS HIPSTER PELMENI

ames is the same old Uralskie pelmeni concept with a twist. In this hipster-friendly cafe you can order dumplings called "oil and gas" — made of black dough, with salmon and dill mousse (270 rubles) or the regular "dumplings from the Urals," but with smoked sour cream (200 rubles). Vareniki, pelmeni's sweet siblings, are also on the menu: try the ones made of cherry-infused dough with a cottage cheese filling and

HMELI SUNELI

YOUR GO-TO GEORGIAN





blackcurrant mousse (200 rubles). Chase it with homemade mors (Russian berry-based drink) or the local Jaws craft beer.

Ulitsa Pushkina, 12 vk.com/zames_ekb

CAFE 1991

RECIPES FROM YELTSIN'S WIFE

afe 1991, a restaurant at the Yeltsin Center, is thankfully not dedicated to the bland food of the 1990s. It's a "new Russian" restaurant, reimagining the traditional recipes and some of the signature dishes of Naina Yeltsina, the wife of the first Russian president. Start with chicken liver mousse with spicy lingonberry sauce (310 rubles) and continue with beef stroganoff on pearl barley. Finish with one of Naina's tasty desserts, like mini eclairs or cherry pie (150 rubles). All the while you can enjoy the views of City Pond and the historic part of Yekaterinburg from the windows. If you're at the Yeltsin Center, this is the perfect place for a pitstop.

Ulitsa Borisa Yeltsina, 3
bycenter.ru/services/meal/cafe1991

KRABY, GADY I VINO SEAFOOD IN A LANDLOCKED CITY

raby, Gady i Vino" can be roughly translated as "Crabs, Seafood and Wine" and it's a seafood restaurant with rather affordable prices, particularly given that Yekaterinburg is in the middle of the continent and rather far from the sea. Tuna tartare will cost you 470 rubles while lasagna with crab meat will set you back 550 rubles. As you'd

expect, they have a large selection of crab dishes available. Chase all that delicious seafood with craft beer (from 150 rubles) or a glass of wine from the restaurant's wide selection (from 165 rubles).

Ulitsa Khokhryakova, 23

SORRISO BEST ITALIAN

orriso is a traditional Italian eatery and wine bar. If you're suffering from Italian food cravings while in Yekaterinburg, this is the place for you. Get your fill of traditional pasta: bolognese (400 rubles) and carbonara (400 rubles) or lasagna (from 430 rubles). There's also ravioli, gnocchi and risotto, as well as your fa-



vorite Italian desserts: tiramisu and panna cotta (from 250 rubles). Buon appetito!

Ulitsa Malysheva, 71 sorriso-ekb.ru

PELMENI CLUB UPSCALE PELMENI

elmeni Club is yet another Yekaterinburg establishment devoted to the eponymous local specialty. But as the name suggests, this is an upscale place. All the ingredients here come straight from the farm and the menu has plenty to offer. Try the Urals borshch with beef (290 rubles) and dumplings (320 rubles). Don't miss their homemade vodka infusions and spirits (from 175 rubles).

Krasnoarmeiskaya Ulitsa, 2 pelmeni-club.ru

engels

BEST BREAKFAST

ngels is your perfect breakfast spot in Yekaterinburg. They make their own sweet and savory waffles, with all kinds of toppings, including salmon, capers, quail eggs and truffle sauce (290 rubles) or marshmallow, strawberry and chocolate sauce (275 rubles). You can also combine toppings of your own choice to make a customized waffle. If you spent too much time in one of the city's sports bars the night before and you're looking for something to get you moving in the morning, cappuccinos are 160 rubles and flat whites are 200.

Ulitsa Malysheva, 21/4 engelscoffee.ru



YEKATERINBURG'S CUISINE

SIBERIAN PELMENI



iberian pelmeni are a must if you're visiting Yekaterinburg. Fancy making your own? Get your friends over and have a pelmeni party!

very nation boasts its own dumplings, and Russia is no exception. They must have come from the East, but Siberian nomads turned Asian dumplings into the world's first flash-frozen food. Light, portable and non-perishable in the frigid Siberian winters, pelmeni could be quickly cooked over a campfire — ideal fodder for long treks in inhospitable climates. Siberians maintain to this day that the best pelmeni are those that are buried underground in the permafrost!

There is no hard and fast rule for what goes inside Russian pelmeni, though meat is traditional. "Gourmet" pelmeni made from exotic ingredients such as duck, crayfish, bison and other delicacies have become popular in the burgeoning hipster food scene in Russia today.

Making pelmeni can be time-consuming, which is why Russians often turn the task into a party. Many hands make much pelmeni!

INSTRUCTIONS

PREPARE THE PELMENI DOUGH

- 1. Mix the flour and salt in a large bowl. Make a well in the middle, then pour the eggs and water into it.
- 2. Knead the dough with your fingers until it holds together, adding more water as needed to ensure that it comes together, but not so much that it sticks to the bowl.
- 3. Form the dough into a ball and knead it on a floured surface for 3-5 minutes until the dough becomes elastic. Place the kneaded dough in a greased bowl and cover with a kitchen towel. Leave to sit for one hour.

PREPARE THE FILLING

- **4.** Sauté the minced shallot, garlic and onion in olive oil until soft.
- **5.** Add the cumin and a generous pinch of salt.
- 6. Place the onion mixture in a food processor fitted with a steel blade. Add the ground meat and remaining ingredients and pulse to combine. Assemble the pelmeni by hand.

7. Roll out the dough into a thin layer. Cut 3-inch rounds and spoon a teaspoon of the filling into the center. Dip your fingers into cold water and fold the dough in half,

then bring the edges together and

crimp them with some ice water.

COOK AND SERVE!

- **8.** Refrigerate the pelmeni as you go so they don't lose their shape.
- 9. Bring a pot of water to a boil and add several generous pinches of salt and a dash of olive oil. When the water comes to a rolling boil, carefully drop the pelmeni, one by one, into the water. Reduce the heat to low and simmer until the pelmeni bob to the surface. Drain well.

SERVING NOTES

10. Russians eat pelmeni with a dollop of sour cream, a dash of tart vinegar, and chopped dill.

INGREDIENTS

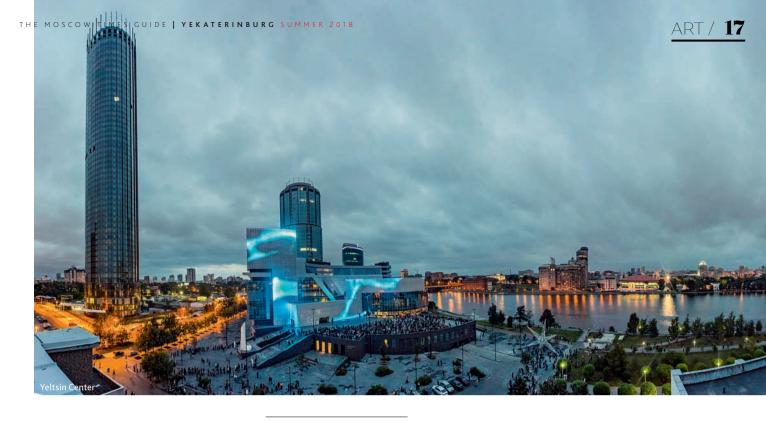
FOR THE PELMENI DOUGH

- 1 lb (500 grams) all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 4 medium eggs, at room temperature
- 4 tbsp (60 ml) warm water, with a bit more to add if needed

FOR THE FILLING

- 1 lb (500 grams) ground lamb, veal or beef
- 8 oz (230 grams) ground pork
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 shallot, finely minced
- 3 cloves garlic, finely minced
- 1 cup (240 ml) yellow onion, finely minced
- 2 tbsp unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup (120 ml) dried tart cherries, finely minced
- 3 tbsp chopped cilantro
- 1 tbsp cumin
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 tbsp sherry vinegar
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) pomegranate molasses
- 1 large egg yolk
- Salt and pepper

Jennifer Eremeeva is a long-time expatriate who writes about Russian history, cuisine, travel and culture at **jennifereremeeva.com**



art THE YELTSIN CENTER OPEN Tues, to Sun, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

TICKETS 200 rubles

🔾 Ulitsa Borisa Yeltsina, 3 yeltsin.ru

WORLD PRESS PHOTO

IUNE 14-IULY 5

he World Press Photo contest is an annual photojournalism competition. Every year an independent jury of professional photographers and photo editors evaluates works from around the world in several categories, including People, Sports and Contemporary Issues. The exhibition at the Yeltsin Center will feature the winning photographs, which reflect the most important world events of 2017.

PERSONAL STORIES

AUG. 16-OCT. 21

he events of 1991 in the Soviet Union had an enormous impact on the destinies of people, their views, values and their way of life. "Personal Stories" shows photographs, quotes from interviews and documents from family archives. It is the result of extensive research about the people who defended the White House during the August 1991 putsch. The project's subjects come from various professions and social circles, and it is particularly interesting to track how their political views

YEKATERINBURG

CULTURAL AGENDA

changed or remained the same after the events of 1991.

VICTIMS OF POLITICAL REPRESSIONS

AUG. 2-OCT. 7

his exhibition is concerned not just with the purges of the 1930s, but also with political repressions throughout Soviet history. The exhibition will focus on the fate of five heroes: Sergei Korolev, Pavel Florensky, Vsevolod Meyerhold, Ulo Sooster and Alexander Solzhenitsyn. One of the sections of the

exhibition is dedicated to the Butovo firing range — the largest site of mass shootings and graves of Stalinist repression victims in the Moscow

The exhibition will feature archival documents, some of which were declassified only in recent years, as well as newspapers, photographs, interviews with former prisoners and artifacts that belonged to Gulag prisoners.

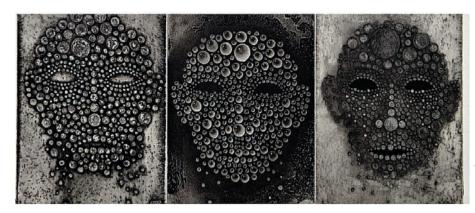
SOBCHAK'S LIFE

IUNE 26



The script was co-written by Ksenia Sobchak, Anatoly Sobchak's daughter and a recent presidential candidate. The film tells the story of the first mayor of St. Petersburg >







music

NIGHT OF MUSIC IN THE URALS

IUNE 29

he annual Night of Music in the Urals has truly become the most important musical event for the entire region. The Yeltsin Center traditionally takes part in this large-scale festival with its own carefully curated line-up. In 2018 the headliners will be Grodno and VOSMOY, supported by other local musicians. The concert will take place in the square outside the Yeltsin Center.

ENTRANCE FREE

Ulitsa Borisa Yeltsina, 3

yeltsin.ru

JAWS FEST

JULY 13

aws Fest is a 10th-anniversary festival at the birthplace of the most popular craft beer brand in Russia: Jaws. The brewery is called Atomnaya Prachechnaya (Nuclear Laundry) and is located in a little town called Zarechny. You can get tickets for special transfer buses from the Opera Theater in central Yekaterinburg. Organizers promise 100 types of beers from 20 breweries around Russia, plus lots of street food and live music.

TICKETS from 1,100 rubles, transfers are 350 rubles

Ulitsa Bazhova, 14

Zarechny, Yekaterinburg Oblast
jawsbeer.ru/jawsfest2018

FIFA FAN FEST

JUNE 14-JULY 15

ekaterinburg's FIFA Fan Fest will take place in the Mayakovsky Central Park of Culture and Leisure, the largest park in the city. Every day there will be match viewings and other activities. Russian rock veterans and Yekaterinburg natives Chaif will perform on the opening day of the championship (June 14). On July 8, the Mayak music festival will be held at the park and will feature performances by rock stars such as Zemfira, one of the most popular Russian singer-songwriters.

Ulitsa Michurina, 230 vk.com/majakekb



through interviews with his family members, associates and enemies.

WORLD CUP SPECIAL PROGRAM JUNE 14-JULY 15

since the Yeltsin Center is considered the most popular cultural and educational center in the Urals, it will invite the city's

most popular cultural and educational center in the Urals, it will invite the city's guests to take part in a special program dedicated to the World Cup. The program includes morning exercises, viewings of games, FIFA video game competitions, presentations of books about sports and much more.

THE YEKATERINBURG MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

OPEN Tues. to Thurs. 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday to Sun. 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

TICKETS 300 rubles

Ulitsa Voyevodina, 5

emii.ru

INTROSPECTOR

TILL JUNE 24

ntrospector" is an exhibition of works by Japanese artist Tomiyuki Sakuta, organized within the framework of the Russia-Japan Cross-Cultural Year. Several dozen engravings created by the artist from 2001 to 2018 will be exhibited, from the series "100 Persons," "Persons" and "Friends." Sakuta uses various techniques, including

etching, aquatint, and mezzotint. Some of his works are portraits while others look more like abstract paintings.

METENKOV HOUSE

TILL AUG. 5

etenkov House once again exhibits photographs by its original owner, Veniamin Metenkov, one of the first professional photographers in Yekaterinburg. This time it features the photographs of the Siberian-Ural Scientific and Industrial Exhibition, which was held in Yekaterinburg in 1887; over three months, more than 80,000 people visited the exhibition. Metenkov's photographs are supplemented with reproductions of engravings by Yury Shubler, as well as designs of shop windows and pavilions.

SILENCE OF GOLD BY DARYA GARNIK

TILL JULY 29

ilence of Gold" is a new exhibition of works by Yekaterinburg photographer Darya Garnik, who explores legends of secret caches hidden in old merchant houses in Yekaterinburg. A gold rush started in the Urals region in the first quarter of the 19th century with the discovery of alluvial gold in the river valleys. Now, almost two centuries later, these mansions still hold their secrets and Garnik tries to uncover them with the help of a camera.

OPEN Tues. through Sun., 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.

TICKETS from 100 rubles

Ulitsa Karla Libknekhta, 36

dommetenkova.ru





theater

YEKATERINBURG OPERA AND BALLET THEATER

TICKETS from 200 rubles

Prospekt Lenina, 46A

uralopera.ru

THE GREEK PASSION

IUNE 14, 16

he Greek Passion" is the concluding chapter in the trilogy of hit operas produced by the Yekaterinburg Opera and Ballet Theater over the past several years. It premiered in April 2018 and like the previous two ("Satyagraha" and "The Passenger"), "The Greek Passion" is directed by Thaddeus Strassberger and conducted by Oliver von Dohnanyi. Composed by Czech Republic native Bohuslav Martinu, "The Greek Passion" is based on the novel "Christ Recrucified" by Greek author Nikos Kazantzakis. The novel takes place in a Greek village under Ottoman rule and the plot revolves around the conflict between the villagers and a group of starving refugees whose homes were destroyed by the Turks.

PAQUITA

IUNE 15. 17

arius Petipa is the man who shaped Russian classical ballet as it is today, and this production, which is a tribute to him, premiered in February of this year. "Paquita" was Petipa's debut both as a dancer and a choreographer in Paris in 1846. He then moved to Russia and became the Ballet Master of the Imperial Ballet. The first two acts of "Paquita" were lost and only the last scene, the famous

"Grand Pas," remained a repertoire piece in the 20th century. The Yekaterinburg Opera and Ballet Theater's production uses the original libretto of "Paquita" and the choreography of the first two acts has been reconstructed based on the notations kept at the Harvard Theater Collection.

ROMEO AND JULIET

JULY 4, 5

fter premiering in 2016, this version of Prokofiev's opera won two Golden Mask theater awards in 2017: one for best production in ballet and one for best actor (Igor Bulytsyn as Mercutio). Directed and choreographed by Vyacheslav Samodurov and conducted by Pavel Klinichev of Bolshoi Theater fame, the performance starts as a rehearsal of the "Romeo and Juliet" ballet and the action could be taking place anytime and anywhere.

SVERDLOVSK ACADEMIC DRAMA THEATER

TICKETS 200 rubles

Oktyabrskaya Ploshchad, 2

uraldrama.ru

VIY

JUNE 13, 14

iy" at the Sverdlovsk Academic Drama Theater is a new interpretation of a classic horror novella by Nikolai Gogol. Directed by renowned film director and playwright Vassily Sigarev, "Viy" premiered in May 2018. The story revolves around a conflict between student Khoma Brut and an undead witch who he accidentally beat to death.



PICKS

THE GREEK **PASSION** JUNE 16

SWAN LAKE JUNE 22

LA TRAVIATA JUNE 27

ROMEO AND JULIET JULY 4

n less than a decade, the Yekaterinburg Opera and



Prospekt Lenina, 46a uralopera.ru

YEKATERINBURG

BALLET

Ballet Theater has transformed itself from a classic provincial theater into a cuttingedge contemporary venue, where every premiere is a national event and where media from Moscow — and even abroad — come to watch. We talked to director Andrei Shishkin about the theater's success and the trilogy of operas that was instrumental to it: "Satyagraha," "The Passenger" and "The

Greek Passion."



ANDREI SHISHKIN, YEKATERINBURG OPERA AND **BALLET THEATER DIRECTOR**

"SATYAGRAHA" WAS YOUR FIRST NATIONAL HIT. WHY THIS **PARTICULAR OPERA?**

'd been thinking about doing Philip Glass' opera "Satyagraha," based on the life of Mahatma Gandhi, for a long time. I'd been to India 14 times by then. I first went to India back in 1992 and I met some Krishnaites at the airport in New Delhi who told me I should go visit Vrindavan on my next trip - there are 5,000 temples there. I visited it and then I started reading "The Bhagavad Gita" and Nicholas Roerich. I've been fascinated with India ever since.

HOW DID YOU GO ABOUT FINDING THE DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR?

t one point during a work meeting in my office I put the music from "Satyagraha" on and some of my colleagues asked to move away from the music because they "couldn't listen to it anymore." That's when I realized they were not the people I needed, and I started searching for new people to do this with. Soon after, I was in the Netherlands and met with an agent. I told him about my dream of producing "Satyagraha," and the next day he took me to the library at the Dutch National Opera, where we met with someone who had actually worked with Philip Glass on the first production of "Satyagraha" and had all the necessary contacts.

HOW DID YOU PICK THE DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR?

ur agent Alex Grigoriev provided us with quite a few links to different directors and conductors. We started with a conductor. We just went through them, watching videos of their performances; eventually we decided on Slovak conductor Oliver von Dohnanyi. He already had experience with music by Philip Glass and knew him personally. We wrote to him and he agreed [to work with us]. Then we picked Thaddeus Strassberger from the U.S. as our director.

HOW WAS THE OPERA RECEIVED BY THE PUBLIC?

roducing "Satyagraha" was rather risky; I had a lot riding on it. It's unfamiliar music, there are no arias, no regular



plot, no hero or anti-hero, no victims and no corpses — none of classical opera's usual features. Plus, people were unfamiliar with the story — someone at the booking office asked, "Who is Mahatma Gandhi? Is he the son of Indira Gandhi?"

I was hesitant to issue the directive to start working on the opera, because there was a line "opera is performed in Sanskrit" in it. But my colleagues embraced the challenge and the our in-house conductor. We considered many options, but I finally set my sights on "The Passenger," an unusual Holocaust-themed opera. It was suggested by Oliver, as he had seen it before. I started watching previous productions, reading the play, then eventually I went to see Auschwitz and met with Zofia Posmysz, the author of the play and a Holocaust survivor. After that, we started thinking about a possible director and our choice

was once again Thaddeus Strassberger.

AND WHAT'S THE STORY BEHIND THE LAST PART OF THE TRILOGY, "THE GREEK PASSION"?

t's not really a trilogy — the term is more of a PR concept. It's just that we realized the theater was starting to get a certain image and needed to produce something just as good as the previous two hits. I knew Nikos



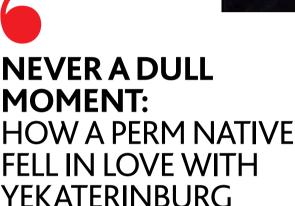
HOW DID YOU CONVINCE DOHNANYI AND STRASSBERGER TO STAY FOR TWO MORE OPERAS?

hat's not how it went down, actually. We invited them both just for "Satyagraha." But since it was such a resounding success, my team and I started looking for a new potential hit project. By that time Oliver von Dohnanyi had become

premiere really piqued the interest of national Kazantzakis as the author of "The Last Temptation of Christ." That was one of the reasons I considered "The Greek Passion," based on another of his novels, "Christ Recrucified." I went to Greece and contacted the local Orthodox Church to ask for some consulting help. They didn't respond for a while, but then they did and it turned out they were reading Kazantzakis' novel. As a result, Father Veniamin consulted with us throughout the production; he's extremely well-read. So there you have it — a trilogy!







moved to Yekaterinburg in 2011 to work at the Urals branch of the National Center for Contemporary Art (NCCA). I worked there for five years and took part in organizing two Ural Industrial Biennials of Contemporary Art.

hen I lived in Perm, I used to play in a rock band called 8 Tripping Horses. 8 Tripping Horses can be described as stoner rock or post-grunge. Our frontman, who goes by the name Anton the 8th, is still playing; he's a solo artist now. (He'll be performing at the Yeltsin Center on Music Night on June 24, by the way.) In 2010, a producer brought us to Moscow and we were quite successful; we had a concert almost every week, and even performed at Solyanka [a cult Moscow club, now closed].

kept my interest in music and that's how I met the band Gorodok Chekistov, named after the constructivist masterpiece building. I became friends with the band members and I even play with them occasionally. I went with them to a festival in Vladivostok a few years back.

realized that I had fallen in love with this city while doing research for a project about that same constructivist building, which was a residential complex for NKVD (Soviet secret police) staff. It was part of the 2015 Ural Industrial Biennial. The exhibition took place at Hotel Iset, the centerpiece of Gorodok. Eight floors were filled with works of art, while the ninth floor was dedicated to the history of the place.

knew quite a few people in Yekaterinburg already and the NCCA team in Yekaterinburg back then was like a family. And there's so much going on. You can be walking down the street when you meet a friend who will tell you all about his new project. It's never boring here.

've seen quite a bit of Russia and I think that after Moscow and St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg is the most interesting city. It's large enough, with 1.5 million people, so there's always an audience for whatever projects you are working on. There's always been a counterculture, from non-conformist art in the 1960s to the Sverdlovsk rock club in 1980s, and it still influences the city.

n 2015, when the Yeltsin Center was about to open, I was invited to head its art gallery. The Yeltsin Center attracts all kinds of Yekaterinburg residents: there's theater, a night club, a public lecture program and various children's projects. Here I don't get to put exhibitions together, like I did at NCCA, but I choose the new projects and curators.

ekaterinburg's cityscape changes all the time. Just a few years ago there was no Yekaterinburg City — the neighborhood of skyscrapers where the Yeltsin Center is located. The TV tower was demolished this spring and that has totally changed the cityscape. And now the new headquarters of the Russian Copper Company, designed by British architect Norman Foster, will be built on the left bank of the Iset River. So the face of the city is constantly changing.

love to walk down Pervomayskaya Ulitsa from Gorodok Chekistov to the Iset River. It's quiet and green and I like to imagine the utopian constructivist city around me, a plan that was never quite realized. I also enjoy spending time on Ulitsa Khokhryakov. My favorite craft bar, Nelson Sauvin, is there.

MATCHES

EGYPT: URUGUAY JUNE 15

FRANCE: PERU JUNE 21

JAPAN: SENEGAL IUNE 24

MEXICO: SWEDEN
JUNE 27



YEKATERINBURG'S STADIUM

THE CITY'S ARENA HAS A LONG AND PROUD HISTORY

HISTORY

he current **Yekaterinburg Arena** was completed in 1957 and is a historical landmark for the city, and especially its sports fans, having hosted some of the city's most important sporting events. The history of the site even predates the arena itself.

Yekaterinburg's athletes have congregated at this spot since 1900, when a velodrome opened, financed by a wealthy merchant and patron. The velodrome, one of the first sporting sites in the city, increased interest in sports as a whole and soon became a training ground for tennis players, runners, and croquet players. In 1913, the first Ural football championships were held in the velodrome. Yekaterinburg, with a little coaching from the English consul, handily won the championship, beating Perm 8-1 in the final.

Needing something new and shiny to put Lenin's name on, the Soviets tore down the velodrome in 1925, building the 5,000-seat Lenin Stadium. It opened with much fanfare three years later, providing the city with a new football pitch and running tracks.

By the early 1950s, the two football teams from Sverdlovsk (as the city was called at the time) had seen considerable success, and crowds were no longer able to fit into the Lenin Stadium; the site was cleared again, this time to make way for the current arena, now the home of FC Ural.

Since then, it has undergone two major renovations; the latest one, for the World Cup, was completed in February 2018.

ARCHITECTURE AND LOCATION

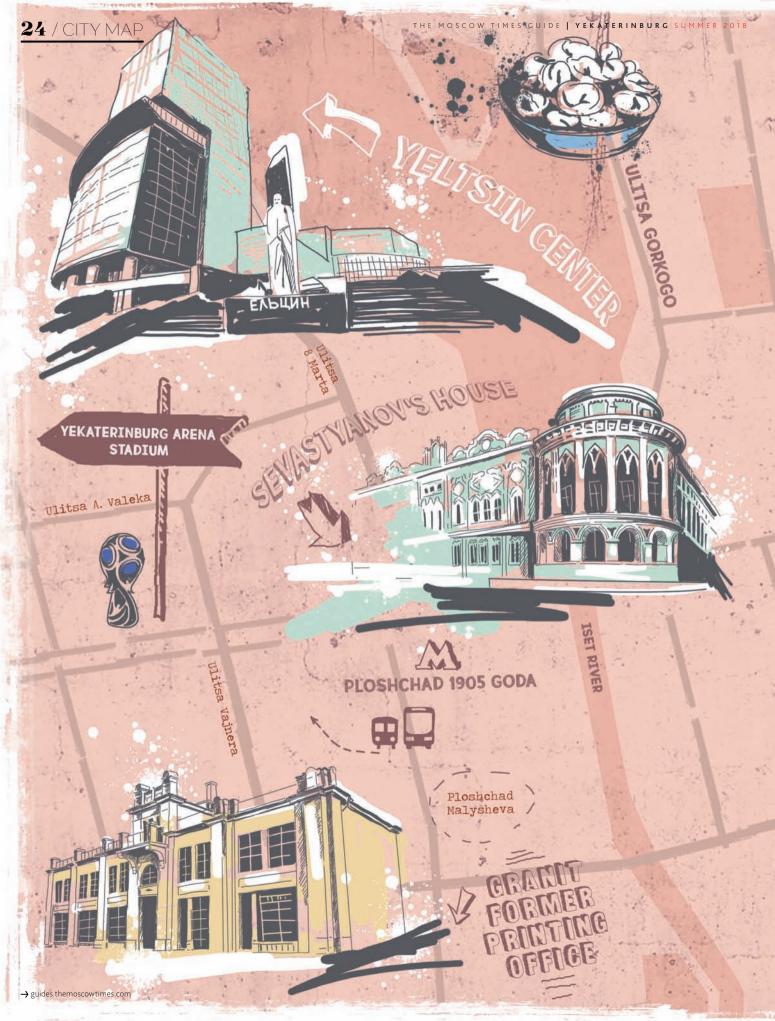
he defining feature of this stadium is its facade, which may be the only part still preserved from the original 1957 construction. The magnificent Soviet neoclassical entrance, topped by a hammer and sickle, supports a giant steel cylindrical structure that rises far above the facade itself.

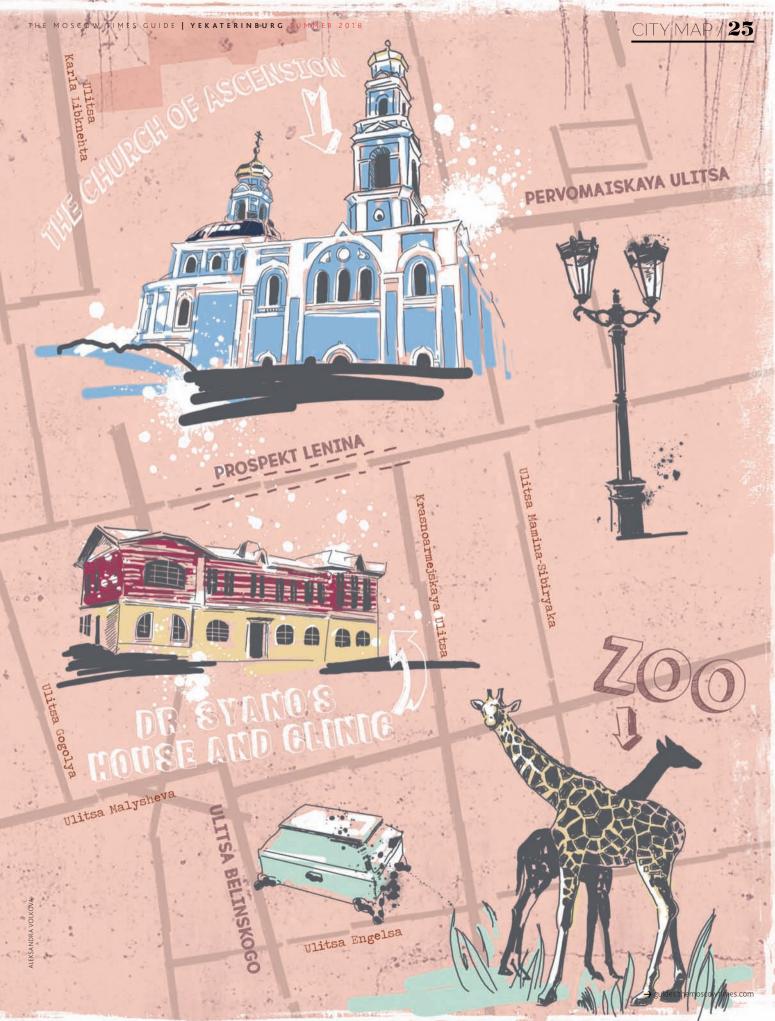
For the World Cup, additional temporary seating has been set up outside the stadium, making room for spectators who will have a bird's eye (if long-distance) view of the action on the field. Once the games are over, the extra seating will be taken down, reducing the capacity from 35,696 to 23,000.



BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The arena is located relatively centrally in the city. The closest metro station is Ploshchad 1905 Goda, from which you can either walk (25 minutes) or take a bus or marshrutka (minibus). Marshrutka 19 stops right in front of the metro; bus 2 and trolleybuses 3, 7 and 17 stop just a few meters away, at Ploshchad Malysheva.









YEKATERINBURG'S

GRISLY LEGACY

ne of Yekaterinburg's claims to fame is that it was the location of the execution of the Russian imperial family.

Citizen Romanov

ussia's last tsar, Nicholas II, visited Siberia only twice in his life: He was there first in 1891, as heir to the throne and honorary chairman of the Trans-Siberian Railroad, when he laid the railroad's cornerstone in Vladivostok on his way home from a world tour. Twenty-seven years later, as "Citizen Romanov," Nicholas followed in the footsteps of generations of political prisoners into Siberia with his family: his wife, the German-born Alexandra; their son, the 14-year-old Tsarevich Alexei, who suffered from hemophilia; and their four daughters: Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia.

ekaterinburg was not a planned stop on the imperial family's journey east, but by 1918, they were accustomed to events overtaking them. They had lived through the riots and strikes of 1905, caused by the tsar's stubborn refusal to introduce much-needed reforms, which had brought the country to the brink of revolution. The outbreak of World War I in 1914 stretched Russia's economy, overburdened military and antiquated infrastructure to breaking point. The revolution of February 1917 forced Nicholas to abdicate and submit to house arrest in Alexander Palace, just outside St. Petersburg.

Dangerous Times

s clashes between the provisional government and the more radical Bolsheviks intensified throughout the summer, Prime Minister Alexander Kerensky decided to send the Romanovs into the interior of the country to Tobolsk, far away from the railway line and inaccessible when the river froze during the Siberian winter. Kerensky hoped that sending the family into the interior of the country would both protect them and position them favorably for a possible escape via Japan. Britain and Germany had both been considered as escape options, but the British monarch demurred and the Romanovs themselves refused to consider Germany as an option.

Civil War

The Romanovs spent the fall and winter quietly, in marked contrast to Petrograd, where Lenin's Bolsheviks wrested power from the provisional government in a coup d'état in October. A bloody civil war then ensued between the fledgling Red Army and units of the counter-revolutionary White Army.

The most disciplined and successful of these was commanded by Admiral Alexander Kolchak, who fought his way west from Vladivostok along the Trans-Siberian line. His steady progress threatened the Bolsheviks' plans to stage a public show trial of the former tsar in Moscow. In the spring of 1918, Moscow dispatched Vasily Yakovlev to Tobolsk to bring the Romanovs to Moscow. Tsarevich Alexei, in the throes of a severe hemorrhage, was unable to travel and so the family separated: Nicholas, Alexandra and Maria accompanied Yakovlev, while the others remained behind to nurse Alexei.





CHURCH ON THE BLOOD

OPEN Daily 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. **TICKETS** Free admission Ulitsa Tsarskaya, 10

Yekaterinburg Detour

akovlev was careful to bypass industrial Yekaterinburg, a bastion of Bolshevik support, but troops from the Ural Regional Soviet intercepted his party, who took the family into custody and brought them to the house of Nicholas Ipatiev.

hree weeks later, Alexei and his sisters arrived to join them, but the Bolsheviks forbade the entourage who had accompanied the Romanovs into exile from continuing; only Dr. Yevgeny Botkin; Alexandra's maid, Anna Demidova; Nicholas's valet, Alexei Trupp; and Ivan Kharitonov, their cook, were allowed to join the family.

Life in Exile

ife in Ipatiev House that summer was monotonous. The deeply religious Romanovs were not allowed to attend church services and only whispered hints of rescue kept their spirits up: Yekaterinburg teemed with would-be saviors of the monarchy, but most of these were ill-equipped to rescue the most famous family in Russia.

olchak remained their best hope, but his steady advance toward Yekaterinburg intensified the urgency to deal with the imperial family. In July, Yakov Yurovsky took over as commandant of the Ipatiev House with a mandate from Moscow to kill them.

Execution

n the early hours of July 17, Yurovsky ordered the family to dress and line up, as if for a photograph, in the basement of the Ipatiev House. He then announced his intentions to execute them and his team of soldiers began to open fire at close range. The adults died quickly, but the children died slowly and in agony: the corsets of the grand duchesses, which had been stuffed with jewels for safekeep-



ing, deflected the bullets and the soldiers had to bayonet Anastasia to death.

urovsky now raced against time to dispose of the bodies. Hampered by a punch-drunk crew and thick mud, he first threw the corpses down an abandoned mineshaft, tossing in hand grenades for good measure. Later, he returned to dredge up the bodies with the intention of throwing them down a much deeper shaft but was forced to bury them when his truck became mired in mud. He dragged the bodies of Alexei and Maria to a separate hole to create confusion over the number of corpses.

Yekaterinburg's Legacy

ekaterinburg still struggles with this "original sin" of the Russian Revolution. In 1977, a party official named Boris Yeltsin oversaw the destruction of the Ipatiev House. In 1998, as Russia's first president, Yeltsin witnessed the interment of bones found in the larger Yekaterinburg gravesite in the Romanov necropolis at Peter and Paul Cathedral. The supposed bones of Maria and Alexei from the smaller grave await final approval by the Holy Synod for interment.

oday, Nicholas, his family and their servants are venerated as Holy Martyrs of the Orthodox Church. They are worshiped throughout Russia, but especially at the Church on the Blood, erected where the Ipatiev House once stood, and at the Monastery of the Tsarist Passion-Bearers, over the graves that once held the bones of the last Romanovs.

Jennifer Eremeeva is a long-time expatriate who writes about Russian history, cuisine, travel and culture at **jennifereremeeva.com**



BACKGROUND

he Yeltsin Center opened in Yekaterinburg at the end of 2015 and quickly became one of the must-see sights in the city. The center is funded by the Boris Yeltsin Presidential Center, a non-profit devoted to "promoting the development of the institute of the presidency in Russia." The organization seeks to educate visitors on the history of Russia in the 1990s and also celebrate the country's move to democracy and freedom.

hough Yeltsin himself was not born in the city but in a village in the surrounding Sverdlovsk region, he is associated with Yekaterinburg in the minds of most Russians. In 1976 he became the first secretary of the Communist Party's regional committee, which roughly corresponded to the position of regional governor. Yeltsin served in this position until 1985, when he was transferred to Moscow; he went on to become Russia's first president.

he Yeltsin Center is part of Yekaterinburg City, a development in the City Pond area, which was started in the 1980s when Yeltsin himself ran the city. He ordered the construction of the city's TV tower skyscraper, jokingly referred to by locals

o trip to Yekaterinburg would be complete without a trip to the Yeltsin Center, a social, cultural and educational space named after one of the city's most famous sons.

as "the party member." The main investor in Yekaterinburg City is UGMK (Ural Mining and Metallurgical Company) and just three new buildings have been completed so far, ranging in height from 21 to 52 floors. Adjacent to the Demidov skyscraper, the Yeltsin Center cost 7 billion rubles (\$113 million), almost 4 billion of which was provided by the federal government. It was designed by Ralph Appelbaum Associates, one of the largest and oldest architectural firms in the U.S. The firm specializes in museum design, and was also commissioned for Bill Clinton's presidential library in Little Rock, Arkansas.

EXPLORING THE CENTER

he Yeltsin Center is much more than just a history museum; it also functions as a cultural and public space. The complex is enormous and boasts a contemporary art gallery, an independent bookstore that doubles as an education center, a theater, a concert hall, several shops and restaurants, and even a nightclub. There's something going on every day of the week: a lecture, a film screening, a concert or an exhibition opening.

he museum's permanent exhibition has courted controversy, as it depicts the "turbulent 1990s" as a time of true democracy, implying that the current Russian leadership does not quite provide that. It also glosses over some of the less appealing aspects of Yeltsin's rule, such as the war in Chechnya and the president's battle with alcohol.

he opening hall in the center is called "Labyrinth," and it tells the Yeltsin family story within the framework of 20th century history, starting with the 1917 October Revolution and moving on to Yeltsin's rise within the ranks of the Communist Party, including his time as party boss in the Sverdlovsk region and the impact he had on Yekaterinburg.

he rest of the museum is devoted to the events of the 1990s, when Yeltsin was Russia's president. It is located on the second floor and rather pompously named "Seven Days that Changed Russia." There are seven sections, all located around a circle. The first is called "I Want Changes" (named after a well-known song by rock band Kino) and is devoted to perestroika and the final years of the Soviet Union, when Yeltsin was the mayor of Moscow.

ugust Coup d'Etat" is about the 1991 coup, which saw Yeltsin rise to power, while "Unpopular Measures" is devoted to the shock economy of the early 1990s. "Birth of a Constitution" talks about the adoption of the 1993 Russian Constitution and "Vote or Lose" discusses the controversial 1996 elections. "Presidential Marathon" is devoted to Yeltsin's second term and finally, "Farewell to the Kremlin" talks about the difficult decision to resign and hand power to Vladimir Putin. At this point, the flow of history seems to simply stop; the museum doesn't touch the Putin era.

he reconstructed reality of the early 1990s, like the neon-lit empty store shelves filled with huge cans of birch juice, is easily recognizable and instructive for younger Russians who didn't live through it. Among other highlights is a replica of Yeltsin's apartment in Moscow on the day of the August 19 coup d'etat, with the TV playing "Swan Lake" on a loop, just as it did that morning, and a life-size trolleybus that Yeltsin used to take during his days in Moscow City Hall. There's also a meticulously restored replica of Yeltsin's office in the Kremlin.



he final hall is called "Freedom Gallery," and the exhibition talks about civil rights and freedoms in the new Russia. The painting "Freedom" by Erik Bulatov is here, as well as quotes from Russia's dissident poets and writers, There's also a statue of Yeltsin sitting on a bench, where one can take a selfie with the first president.





OPEN daily 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., closed Monday TICKETS 200 rubles Ulitsa Borisa Yeltsina, 3 yeltsin.ru







ussian is not the easiest language to learn quickly — even the alphabet

takes a few days to master. But the good news is that Russians tolerate mistakes and bad pronunciation. To understand the reply, show a map, give the person pen and paper, or point in a direction so the person will either nod "yes" or correct you.

BASICS

Hello!

Здравствуйте! **Zdrastvuite!**

Good morning/day/ evening

Доброе утро/добрый день добрый вечер

Dobroye utro/dobry den/ dobry vecher

Goodbye

До свидания.

Do svidaniya

Please!

Пожалуйста!

Pozhaloosta!

Thank you!

Спасибо!

Spaseebo!

Help!

Помогите!

Pomogeete!

I don't understand

Я не понимаю

Ya ne ponimayu

Open/Closed

Открыто/Закрыто

Otkryto/Zakryto

Entrance/Exit

Вход/Выход

Vkhod/Vykhod

BASICS

Cashier/Ticket desk

Here/There

Здесь/Там

Zdes/Tam

Касса

Kassa

Toilet

Туалет

Tualet (M = men Ж = women)

I feel ill

Мне плохо

Mne plokho

Where is ...

Где ...

Gde ...

... hotel (Name)?

- ... гостиница (Name)?
- ... gostinitsa (Name)?

... a pharmacy?

- ... аптека?
- ... apteka?

... a grocery store?

- ... продуктовый магазин?
- ... produktovy magazeen

... a mall?

- ... торговый центр?
- ... torgovy tsenter?

BASICS

... the museum (Name)?

- ... музей (Name)?
- ... muzei (Name)?
- ... a café?
- ... кафе?
- ... kafe?

... the restaurant (Name)?

- ... ресторан (Name)?
- ... restoran (Name)?

MONEY

How much does it cost?

Сколько стоит?

Skolko stoeet?

Write down the cost, please

Напишите цену, пожалуйста

Napeesheete tsenu, pozhaloosta

Can I pay with a credit card? Можно платить картой?

Mozhno plateet kartoi?

I'd like to exchange money

Я хочу обменять деньги

Ya khochu obmenyat dengee

Where is the exchange office?

Где обменный пункт?

Gde obmenny poonkt?

YEKATERINBURG

GEM OF THE URALS

You'll find plenty of options when it comes to souvenir shopping in Yekaterinburg. The city in the Urals specializes in jewelry, so be sure to pick something up to bring home for your special someone.



GETTING THERE

SYMPHONY OF GIFTS

Proletarskaya Ulitsa, 11 Metro Dinamo present-ekat.ru

YULINE, GREENWICH MALL

Ulitsa 8 Marta, 46 Metro Geologicheskaya uline.me

TAVOLOZHSKAYA CERAMICS

Ulitsa Chelyuskintsev, 60 Metro Dinamo tavolgatur.ru

SYSTERSKY PORCELAIN

Ulitsa Lenina, 22 Metro 1905 Ploshchad farfor-sysert.ru

HONEY SHOP

Ulitsa Vikulova 37/1 +7 (343) 205 1635

FC URAL SHOP, GREENWICH MALL

Ulitsa 8 Marta, 46 Metro Geologicheskaya shop.fc-ural.ru

JEWELRY AND GEMS

Yekaterinburg is the largest city in the Urals and, thanks to the region's extensive mineral and metal deposits, it is the place in Russia to shop for jewelry. Stop in the store Yuline to surprise someone special back home. In Yekaterinburg, artisans use their natural riches for

a whole host of other items that you can take home with you not just jewelry.

The stone that you will see the most, which is synonymous with the city, is malachite. At Symphony of Gifts you will be confronted with row after row of this elegant green stone, crafted into everything from business card holders to backgammon sets to entire

dioramas containing various stones. In addition to malachite, you can find many of the same items made out of jasper, serpentine and bronze. While you're here, also take a look at the offerings made from the more baggage-friendly birch bark; sure to be popular is a cognac holder in the shape of a cannon.



CERAMICS

Hailing from a town not far to the north of the city is a traditional style of pottery-making known as Tavolozhskaya ceramics. This homey-looking earthenware (reddish-brown hued, lightly painted) is perfect for serving stews and other hearty meals. You can find these at any souvenir store, though for the best selection, the main factory (which is still located in the town where the ceramics originated) has an outlet in Yekaterinburg.

PORCELAIN

For a slightly more refined table service, you might want to consider investing in Systersky porcelain. This porcelain combines the whimsy of a 6-year-old's imaginary tea party with the relaxed elegance of a 19th-century provincial estate, and you can find anything from gnome statuettes to a set of plates commemorating the members of

Nicholas II's family (they were executed in Yekaterinburg). The factory outlet is located in the city.

HONEY

Perhaps one of the few culinary spheres where Russian gourmands broke ground before the West is honey. At Honey Shop you can find the best natural honey from all around the Urals to bring back to even the most implacable food snob. There are as many varieties and colors as there are types of pollen-bearing plants, so make sure to try a bunch to find your favorite.

FOR THE FOOTBALL **FANS**

Yekaterinburg is also home to FC Ural, which plays in Russia's premier league. You can find their orange, black and white apparel at their outlet in Greenwich Mall, which is also home to a number of Western stores.



YEKATERINBURG

CITY SURVIVAL GUIDE

Navigate your way around the sprawling tangle of industrial buildings and constructivist gems in the capital of Russia's Urals.

YEKATERINBURG

s the last metro system to be built in the Soviet Union, Yekaterinburg's metro has a single line and nine stations. Tickets cost 26 rubles, and can be bought at station ticket offices or self-serve terminals. The closest station to the Yekaterinburg Arena is Ploshchad 1905 Goda. located about 1.5 kilometers, or a 25-minute walk, from the stadium.

The Yekaterinburg Ekarta, a plastic transport card, is also available and can be topped up with any amount of money. For a short visit, consider a 3-day unlimited card for 390 rubles. Another option is to buy a 20-ride card for 500 rubles. The metro is open every day from 6 a.m. to midnight.

BUSES, TROLLEYBUSES SAFETY

nown for its extensive tram network, Yekaterinburg's overground transportation system is fast, safe and reliable. The center of the city is well-served by bus, tram and trolleybus routes. The city's outskirts can be reached by bus or marshrutka. Unlike the metro, however, buses and trams can get very crowded during rush hour.

On the bus, tram or trolleybus, you can pay the driver in cash or use the **Ekarta**. Marshrutkas are cash only. Plan routes in advance and get acquainted with the bus schedules on the Yandex.Transport

TAXIS

ber is the most popular taxi app in Yekaterinburg, but you can also use Gett and Yandex.Taxi.

✓ ekaterinburg's crime rates are comparable with the rates in Moscow and St. Petersburg, and pickpocketing remains a common problem. Be careful on public transportation and at shopping areas; avoid traveling to the outskirts alone and remain vigilant at bars and clubs after midnight.

PHARMACIES

he two biggest pharmacy chains are Raduga and Valeta. Most pharmacies are small and will require that you practice your Russian (or hand gestures!) when speaking to staff.

MEDICAL TREATMENT

igh-quality treatment in Yekaterinburg can be difficult to obtain and very expensive. State medical care is free but the quality of service is

often poor. Private clinics such as Alfa Zdrav and Novaya Bolnitsa offer a wide range of services, from medical consultations to diagnostic lab services. There are no clinics that cater specifically to foreign visitors in Yekaterinburg, so be prepared to show off your Russian skills.

GROCERY SHOPPING

irovsky supermarkets are everywhere in Yekaterinburg. Two other popular chains are Yabloko and Yeliseyevsky. A large supermarket can be found at the Mega Yekaterinburg mall.

CLOTHES SHOPPING

or an upscale shopping experience, head to **Ulitsa** Vaynera in the city center. In Yekaterinburg, the best shopping can be found in the shopping malls. Check out Raduga Park and Greenwich for a good selection of mass-market and sports brands.

REPAIR SERVICES

ekaterinburg's repair shops are easy to find but difficult to make sense of. Shops offer repair services along with laundry services, fur cleaning, and even sewing courses. You'll have to explain your request in Russian. Look for the words "atelye" or "remont odezhdi" as you search for clothes repair shops, and "remont obuvi" or "obuvnaya masterskaya" for shoerepair services.

INFORMATION CENTERS

wo information centers can be found in the main part of the city. Both centers are located on Ulitsa 8 Marta and offer free information, brochures and maps, and can help in case of an emergency.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

f you require urgent assistance from medical services, police or the fire department, dial the free 112 emergency number. The number is accessible from both landlines and mobile phones, even if there is no SIM card or if your number has been blocked. Operators speak Russian and English.



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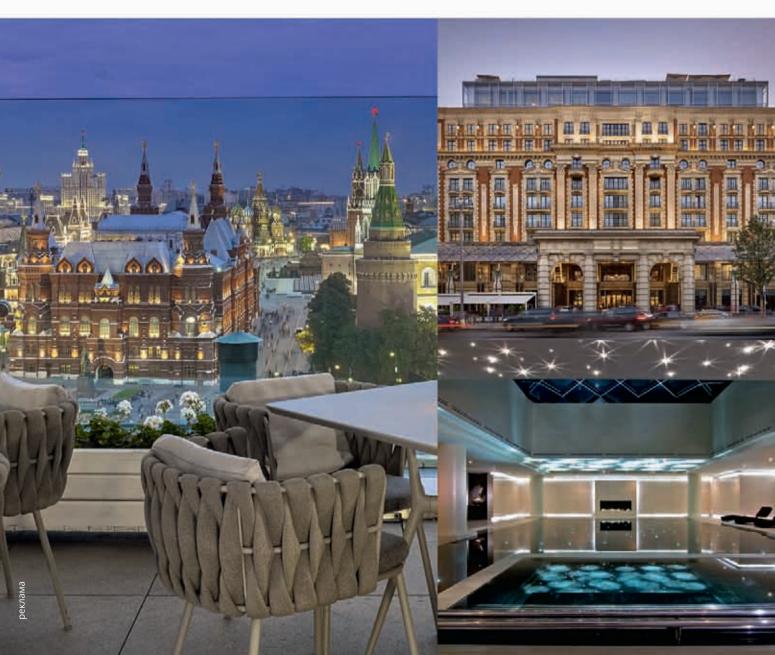
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