

1: Russian icons - Wikipedia

Russia is no exception, especially because the local people tend to be very superstitious and you wouldn't want to do anything that signifies bad luck. Here are 15 things NOT to do in Russia, the most important - don't refuse vodka!

After all, you usually keep your elbows off the table and say "Please pass the salt," right? But when you head abroad, things get a little more complicated. It can also help you make friends. Then here are 15 rules to keep in mind. Instead, when eating a dish with cooked rice, use your fork only to push food onto your spoon. Also, stand-alone items that are not part of a rice-based meal may be eaten with a fork. But, says Leela Punyaratabandhu, a food writer who blogs at SheSimmers. In Japan, never stick your chopsticks upright in your rice. Between bites, your chopsticks should be placed together right in front of you, parallel to the edge of the table -- and nowhere else, says Mineko Takane Moreno, Japanese cooking instructor and co-author of "Sushi for Dummies. But sticking them upright in a bowl of rice is even worse: During funerals in Japan, the rice bowl of the deceased is placed before their coffin So what would she rather see: Someone doing that at a meal, or asking for a fork? At what Georgians call a supra traditional feast , wine is drunk only at toasts. So wait for those On the upside, says Georgia-based photographer and videographer Paul Stephens, the glasses tend to be on the small side. In Mexico, never eat tacos with a fork and knife. Worried about spilling refried beans and salsa all over your front? Mexicans think that eating tacos with a fork and knife looks silly and, worse, snobby -- kind of like eating a burger with silverware. Eat with your hands. In Italy, only drink a cappuccino before noon. If you need that coffee fix, though, an espresso is fine. In Britain, always pass the port to the left -- and remember the Bishop of Norwich. Regardless, passing the decanter to the right is a big gaffe. So is not passing it at all. This is such a nationwide tradition, the Telegraph wrote an article on it. Can you spot the travel rip-off? Instead, eat it as an accompaniment to your food or, especially, to the cheese course at the end of the meal. Putting parmigiano on pizza is seen as a sin, like putting Jell-O on a fine chocolate mousse. A rule of thumb: Manners here are a little more formal than many other South American countries. In Korea, if an older person offers you a drink, lift your glass to receive it with both hands. Doing so is a sign of respect for elders, an important tenet of Korean culture. The 6 most inspiring travel films of the year Never mix -- or turn down -- vodka in Russia. The beverage is always drunk neat -- and no, not even with ice. Even if it is 9am. When drinking coffee with Bedouins in the Middle East, shake the cup at the end. In Brazil, play your tokens wisely. At a churrascaria, or a Brazilian steakhouse, servers circle with cuts of meat and diners use tokens to place an order.

2: 15 years of Vladimir Putin: 15 ways he has changed Russia and the world | World news | The Guardian

After Omaha, Nebraska we moved to the state of Utah. Through I W and the beautiful mountains of Colorado we came to visit Gary, Cynthia and Lyra Rosenfield in Leeds, UT.

Search Toggle display of website navigation Dispatch: October 3, , 1: He said he was visiting friends and doing some Christmas shopping. But he never returned. The case is making clear that the blurred battle lines of the information war between Russia and the West have now spread to the Arctic Circle—and even to a friendly place where the emphasis has long been on Norwegians and Russians working together. Moreover, there are new signs that the Cold War-style conflict is escalating: Recently, Britain announced that it was sending marine commandos to Norway its equivalent of the U. Marines and setting up a small Arctic base there as part of a wider strategy aimed at curbing Russian military maneuvers in the far north. Berg was arrested in December. It serves as a daily reminder of the cross-border tensions. But travel around the town and signs of cooperation are everywhere—literally, with place names in both Norwegian and Russian. Many local residents speak Russian as well as Norwegian. Every day, buses bring Russian shoppers across the border to stock up on Western goods, thanks to a visa-free travel deal for local residents. Norwegians go the other way to fill up on cheap gasoline. And it has been a useful boost to the economy in Kirkenes and the surrounding Finnmark county region. Berg—a retired border guard—had long been active in building these ties, volunteering in rural Russia and organizing a series of cross-border festivals. So his arrest left many in Kirkenes wondering how a pensioner who had devoted his retirement to building closer ties with Russia could have become entangled in a cross-border espionage plot. This spring, Berg himself added a new layer of intrigue when he admitted, through his lawyer, that he had actually been working with Norwegian military intelligence. When his comments reached northern Norway, it sparked a backlash toward the government down south in Oslo and the intelligence agency—particularly among his fellow Kirkenes residents. The mood was further inflamed when it emerged that other people in Finnmark county had been approached and asked to serve as couriers to and from Russia. Norwegian and Russian fishing boats unload their catch at the harbor in Kirkenes on Aug. But Rafaelsen has been trying to navigate a middle course, calling for his release and chastising the intelligence services for their efforts to sign up local people. Why, Nilsen asked, would a spy operation rely on mailing envelopes of cash through the notoriously unreliable Russian postal system? And if the Russians really had unraveled an operation dating back three years, why had there been no news of any other arrests or anyone being punished? What is certain, Norwegian security experts say, is that the Berg arrest gives the Russian intelligence services the upper hand. Geir Hagen Karlsen, the director of strategic communication and psychological operations at the Norwegian Defense University College. It looks like we were caught while trying something outside our core competence. Nilsen was banned from entering Russia the following year. Despite the visa-free travel deal, he was barred from entering Russia last year—he believes for running articles critical of Russian foreign policy, which were also published in Russian. But there is growing support for a softer line toward Russia, especially in the northern border regions. And even before the Berg case erupted, there were signs that Russia was trying to stoke such sentiment. As Moscow sees it, the government in Oslo is taking an increasingly confrontational stance—belying its support for closer ties in the north. Marines to be stationed on its soil. The Norwegian Defense Ministry announced this summer that the deployment would be more than doubled, to U. His continued support for dialogue with Russia, and rolling back EU sanctions, is just what Sputnik wants to hear. Local partisans also worked closely with Soviet units to drive the Nazis out. Celebrations of this shared history in the Finnmark region have grown more common in recent years. This summer, representatives of both countries inaugurated a memorial honoring the role of Norwegian partisans during World War II in Vardo, a town about 50 miles north of Kirkenes. But once the Cold War took root, Moscow exploited these past ties, recruiting Norwegians to spy on its behalf. That in turn triggered mass surveillance by the Norwegian intelligence services, focusing on anyone suspected of communist or left-leaning tendencies. In , a Norwegian parliamentary commission declared the surveillance had been illegal and that some of those targeted were entitled to compensation. Many Russians from the

border areas work and conduct business in town. She has also resisted plans for regional boundary changes for fear it would hamper closer ties with Russia. In the meantime, Berg remains a pawn in this complex game of information chess, where the moves are never entirely clear. This July, a Moscow judge prolonged his pretrial detention, and his lawyers now expect a court date sometime in the fall. That was wishful thinking until recently because Norway had no one in custody that the Russians would be interested in. But in late September, the Norwegian police arrested a Russian citizen on suspicion of spying at a parliamentary event, giving Oslo a potential new card to play. Preserving close ties with their Russian neighbors is a priority for the people in northern Norway, but the region is also becoming a battleground in the wider fight for hearts and minds. For Russia and the FSB, this is fantastic. Wait until the trial starts. Reid Standish is a journalist based in Helsinki, Finland. He was formerly an associate editor at Foreign Policy.

3: 15 Things NOT to Do in Russia - Destination Tips

Way to Russia is the leading travel guide to Russia, established in and visited by more than 1Mn people every year. It's recommended by The Lonely Planet, Rough Guides, BBC and other reputable publications.

These restrictions could also be applied against Syria for its reported attack on the rebel-held city of Douma in April. How it unfolded Ex-Russian spy poisoned On March 4, former Russian double agent Sergei Skripal and his year-old daughter were found slumped on a bench outside a shopping center in the British town of Salisbury. Authorities said both were in a critical condition after being exposed to an "unknown substance. How it unfolded Russia denies involvement Russia denied any knowledge of the poisoning, which echoed the murder of former Russian spy Alexander Litvinenko in Litvinenko was poisoned with radioactive polonium How it unfolded Nerve agent suspected On March 7, British police said they suspected a very rare nerve agent was behind the poisoning of Skripal. How it unfolded UK promises retaliation British police said more than 21 people had sought medical treatment as a result of the nerve agent attack. Rudd called the use of a chemical nerve agent on British soil a "brazen and reckless" act that would be answered with all possible force. May said the Russian government had either ordered the attack or lost control of the Russian-produced chemical nerve agent Novichok. When asked if the EU might impose sanctions of Russia if it was agreed Moscow was responsible for the attack, Dombrovskis said: On March 14, a spokesperson for the Russian Embassy in London said Moscow would not respond "until it receives samples of the chemical substance. How it unfolded UK announces expulsions of diplomats After Russia failed to give an explanation, May announced on March 14 that the UK would expel 23 Russian diplomats identified as "undeclared intelligence officers. The biggest expulsions from London in 30 years would "fundamentally degrade Russian intelligence capability for years to come," May said. The statement said the attack using "a military-grade nerve agent, of a type developed by Russia" constituted "an assault on UK sovereignty" that threatened "the security of us all. How it unfolded Russia expels British diplomats In retaliation to the UK, Russia said it would also expel 23 British diplomats, giving them the same one-week deadline. Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, had said Moscow would "of course" respond with expulsions. How it unfolded UK says Novichok was used On March 20, UK scientists determined Skripal was poisoned using a little-known nerve agent from a group of chemical compounds known as Novichok. The family of compounds, which were developed in the 70s and 80s, comprise numerous nerve agents. The Soviets once developed these weapons to circumvent the Chemical Weapons Convention. Novichok-5 and Novichok-7 are supposed to be the most dangerous. How it unfolded Mass Russian diplomat expulsions A number of EU countries teamed together on March 26 and simultaneously announced they would be expelling Russian diplomats. They believe that is where Skripal and his daughter must have first come into contact with the poison. It was likely mixed in with a "gooey substance" smeared on the door handle. How it unfolded New Novichok victims In early July, weeks after both Skripals were discharged from the Salisbury hospital, another two people were apparently poisoned with the same substance in the nearby town of Amesbury. A year-old man and a year-old woman were found unconscious and were transported to the same hospital in critical condition.

4: Okhotsk Plate - Wikipedia

The Okhotsk Plate is a minor tectonic plate covering the Sea of Okhotsk, the Kamchatka Peninsula, Sakhalin Island and TÅ•hoku and HokkaidÅ• in www.enganchecubano.com was formerly considered a part of the North American Plate, but recent studies indicate that it is an independent plate, bounded on the north by the North American Plate.

Culture background Russian culture has a long history and tradition and Russians are very proud of it. Russians consider themselves as a well educated nation. They read a lot, books are cheap, and one can afford to buy books a month without serious damage to a family budget. Russians are also big fond of live performances at theatres and since tickets are affordable prices in cinemas and theatres are comparable , they enjoy attending theatres: Usually every city has a few theatres. The theatre culture was developed during the Soviet times when tickets were sold through schools and enterprises: The agent would bring tickets for distribution to every enterprise and school in his area and the person responsible for "culture sector" would organize collective visit to the theatre. I think it was an excellent system since people had the opportunity to attend theatres from the early age, starting from attending performances in a Muppet theatre, then moving to the Youth Drama Theatre, then to Drama, Musical and Opera, according to their age. Also attending performances in a company is always much more fun, which contributed to the popularity of theatres. This is how most Russian people have developed their taste for live performances. Movie theatres are also becoming popular in Russia and they are equipped with the latest sound systems. When Russian people talk about movie theatres, they will usually say "cinema"; if they talk about "theatres", they mean live performances. During Soviet times there was a well developed system of community work and in every group class at school, department at work etc would be also a person responsible for sport, education, political information of the group etc. People that were doing community work were given benefits free or discounted travel, ability to buy deficit goods, ability to receive a better apartment from the government for free etc - remember, there was no private property until Perestroika, everything used to belong to the state, which was controlling distribution and would award the most active citizens. Unfortunately the system of volunteering was broken with Perestroika but Russians still have that great community spirit which sometimes goes to the lengths a westerner would consider as infringement. Russian culture is non-individualistic. The power of an individual in Russia is much less than in the west and most deals are pushed through family, friends and acquaintances. Russian saying is, "One is not a soldier in the battlefield". In Russia, one still needs to know people in power to make things work. This is why they maintain more friendships than an average westerner. They often have to rely on their friends to help them out. You know someone who knows someone who is in power; this is the way they have the things done. If you know the right people, you can have the most difficult things done with little effort. In my life, a few times I ran into dead ends where there was nothing I could do in the straightforward way; the people were right to refuse me, according to the official rules. But once I could find people who knew someone inside the system, a month wait would turn into just a few hours wait or they would find a place for me where they said the rules would not allow them to give me one. Foreigners would just give up; Russians believe there is always a roundabout. Frankly, most of them are not true believers. They appreciate Christian moral values but do not follow them. Religion is not a real part of their life. Russians are more aware of horoscopes than the Bible. Church service in Russia can be attended any day of the week and performed every day 2 or 3 times early morning at 3 a. People usually attend the church just to "light a candle" and quickly pray. They do it to ask for something to happen a business deal, an exam or to remember a close person who is dead. People do not have to be a member of the church to do it and they do not have monthly contributions to the church. Church survives selling candles and reminder notes and charging for services such as baptizing, weddings and funerals. Church marriage is not official in Russia. A couple has to register their marriage with government authorities first to be allowed to have church ceremony performed. Medical aid and education in Russia are free, though Russians joke that education becomes less and less free with every year. One can still get a university education for free by passing the entrance tests exams , but the universities have to decrease the number of students studying on a free basis because of poor state financing. Since both

education and culture facilities used to be widely available, Russians can be considered a highly cultured nation. Their general knowledge is very good: At secondary schools, they study not only the history of Russia but also the world history, including American and European history. In the same secondary school course 11 years school qualification is mandatory in Russia they study world literature, world music, and world geography. Many books of western authors are mandatory reading in the course of literature in Russian translation of course. The standard secondary school program includes studying of a foreign language for 6 years grades, usually it is English but also can be French, German or Spanish. Most subjects in the course of a secondary school are mandatory for all schools throughout the whole Russia, and only since recently there are some subjects that students can choose in addition to the general course. On the entrance exams at universities and colleges only questions from the general course of the secondary school can be asked. Universities and colleges accept students according to the results of entrance tests, and not according to their marks at school, though having excellent marks can help for example, you would only have to pass exams instead of regular 4. Intellectually, Russians are interesting people to talk to and enjoy deep subjects. Philosophy is still a mandatory subject when you study for a degree and one of the 3 compulsory subjects for PhD qualifying exam the other 2 are foreign language and the specialty itself. Their manners are not bad, they are just Russian. During the Soviet period having "good manners" was considered as a bourgeois survival. Russians are very straightforward. When they meet or phone each other, they seldom spend time on questions like "How are you? The problem with Russian education is that it was always rather theoretical and unrelated to practice. In the old days having a degree was an end in itself. They are trying to change the educational programs now, but it will take years to build the system. The position that one has in a company is not as important as the company in which he or she works. Having your own business in Russia is a big challenge. The tax system works in the way that if one has a small business individual private enterprise, he must pre-pay taxes before he receives permission to act. Then he gets a permission to start his business activity; but he must run to the tax department the second he earns 1 Ruble more profit than it was estimated and paid in advance. I understand that it sounds funny, but it just works like this. The authorities are suspicious towards owners of small businesses. The bigger enterprises have a more convenient tax system. At the same time there were comments from top government officials that this is only a temporary retreat, and the progressive tax system will be brought back as soon as people get used to paying their taxes. Actually, the government hoped that people would start paying tax and show their real profits - but Russians know their government. Collecting taxes is still the biggest concern for the Russian government. In Moscow and St. Petersburg, there are sizable communities of expatriates that live there mostly because of the low taxes - investors etc. Other westerners live there because of the low cost of living; on a western disability pension one can live in Russia as a king. They even have their own expatriate newspapers in English! Before the year, the Russian tax system was very complicated. To pay rubles to an employee, an employer had to pay about 80 rubles of tax to the state: The system made companies have double accounting, and sometimes double salaries - an official one and so called "black cash salary". Another reality businesses face in Russia is organized crime, which often has close connections with authorities. Nowadays many businesses prefer to employ "commercial" departments of police organizations or private security companies, which are in reality just a camouflaged "raket". They will "help" you in a case of bad debts, problems with business partners or criminal situations like robbery etc, providing you a "roof". All "criminal cooperations" have official businesses registered, and you pay them an official fee additionally to unofficial. It was a very funny case in Ekaterinburg at spring, when one of the "cooperations" registered their association as "OPS". In Russian it is a common abbreviation for "organized crime syndicate" "Organizovannoye Prestupnoye Soobshchestvo". It was one of the most famous and big groups in the city, and the choice of such a name demonstrated that the guys were feeling absolutely comfortable with their status. Well, you consider us as "OPS"? But businessmen are in a better situation than the people that work as employees. With all the headaches and stress, they still have some money and considerably good living standards. Government employees, particularly medical doctors and teachers, do not receive their salaries for months, sometimes up to months. It started in early 90th, first as delays with payments. So the first time one received his salary a week later, then next month - 2 weeks later, and so on. Eventually it happens

PLATE 15. ON THE WAY TO RUSSIA pdf

that in June you receive your salary for last December. One receives some money regularly, and he can survive, though the government owes him thousands. This way was quickly picked up by the other organizations, and now even if one works for a private company, he might not receive his salary on time. They have so many difficulties and problems in life, that they can easily find a roundabout way for anything. Russians are of some the most reckless, but at the same time skillful, drivers, and the most careless pedestrians in the world. The people steal everything they can from the state". During the Soviet time there was such a phrase: No other country in the world has such abuse of pirate software, video and audio records, CDs etc exposed for sale on every corner. They used to publish books of Western authors, and the authors found it out only when started to receive letters of thanks from Russia. The information from my sites was stolen many times. I would understand if it was paid subscribers whose money they did not want to lose, but one of the sites was hosted by a free service provider www. Apply to the site owner".

5: ~Granny™ Update How to Use Book, Start Car, Find Pet Spider and More

Loading your plate up with these big-ticket items is the best way to get your money's worth. Russia Is Breeding 'Super Chickens' to Safeguard Against Potential U.S. Sanctions.

Myths and Truths about Russia Author: Really, it turns out I live at such a dangerous place, which is ruled by authoritarian regime, flooded with mafiosi, catastrophes, bombings happening all the time, with deadly cold winters, demolished economy, depressed people The point is that all those things about Russia are either not true or very much exaggerated. Russia is an orthodox, conservative police state. There are a lot of people with orthodox and conservative beliefs and yes, Russia is one of the most heavily policed countries in the world. However, think about the other facts. Russia had the most revolutions in the last years than most "progressive" countries of the West. Russia dispensed ideologies like trends: Russian society is anything but conservative and orthodox. Besides, Russians hate rules, so even though police is there, the sense of freedom is much higher than anywhere else in the world. As we say, "the strictness of the Russian law is compensated by the lack of necessity to follow it. Well, there is Mafia, but the wild west nineties are left in the 20th century. Really, think about it: The mafiosi spend all their time making business, the gangs spend all their time dealing with each other, so you certainly will not experience any of that. Definitely places like New York and some areas of London are much more dangerous. Also, you should know about so-called "gopniki". These are the working class youngsters hanging out in the poor neighborhoods. Back in the 90s they could be a real nuisance, but these days they are more like endangered species. Or watch the educational video below: All the paperwork you need are your passport and an invitation from Russia. The invitation can be sent to you by fax or e-mail. After you received the invitation or its copy , you just need to bring it to Russian consulate to get your visa. You can get the invitation online through the companies listed on Way to Russia. Besides, since a few years several no-frills budget airlines have regular flights to Moscow from Germany and from Italy. If you want to know more about these and other better options to get to and from Russia, check out our Transportation section. There are so many catastrophes and bombings, I will die! Not more than anywhere else. Ok, but what about Chechnya and the terrorists?! You might be thinking more about it than we do, really. People live their lives and try to be as happy as they can. Chechnya seems to be very far away and unless you travel there, you most probably will hear about it only on the news. There are occasional terrorist attacks still, but nobody knows if the Chechen guerillas, who often assume responsibility, were really involved or just use the events to promote their agenda. Nowadays, a terrorist attack always has a chance to happen in other other country, so in this sense it is as dangerous as anywhere else nowadays, unfortunately. We think that actually it would help a lot if the attention in the media shifted from the political aspect of the problem towards the social one. There are a lot of people without a shelter, lots of orphans left after the war. If all the propaganda effort goes towards humanitarian causes, we believe it will do much more good than constantly talking about the fragile peace and the means through which it was achieved. The economy is destroyed and not at all diversified, Russia has no future! Well, nowadays things are quite different. On one side it made things quite unstable again. On the other side, many people finally got a kick in their ass and started to do something about innovation rather than thinking about it. The bottom line is that Russia still has a huge human resource potential. Even though the education is hopelessly outdated, the economy is hopelessly dependent on the outside markets and not at all diversified We still have small grass-root initiatives here and there that keep Russia on the international map for example, tandp. This free independent travel guide to Russia exists thanks to the commission we get when you order these hand-picked trusted third-party services or when you buy our book.

6: Russian Souvenirs & Memorabilia for sale | eBay

Which of the following statements best describes the way elderly and working class Russians view Putin and similar political leaders? Russia remains predominant in its region (and the world) due to all of the.

Just south of Alexander Nevsky Bridge From 2: The metro is a cheap and effective way to get around the city, and also a major tourist attraction due to the beautiful decorations of the stations. Amateur photography without a tripod, etc is allowed, although professional photography is prohibited. The trains are fast and run frequently. During rush hour, there are often only 30 seconds between trains. Fares are RUB45 per entry regardless of the distance traveled. Multi-trip passes can be purchased including a trip pass for RUB must be used within 7 days of purchase. The system can be accessed by inserting a brass token into the turnstile slot, by tapping a Podorozhnik smart card purchased from a machine at the station, or by tapping a Mastercard PayPass or Visa PayWave card on the white circle near the turnstile. Large baggage requires payment of 1 additional fare. Opening and closing times vary; the subway is closed from approximately midnight to approximately Metro maps can be found in every train car and always have station names in the Latin alphabet. The station names on the platforms are also in the Latin alphabet, and many other signs are in English. Station announcements on the train are only in Russian, but if you listen carefully you will hear the conductor announce the current station name and the next station as the doors are closing. Highly recommended is the use of the metro cards that work as electronic wallets, e. They can be acquired at the metro cash desks, charged at the desks or the automated ticket machines in metro stations and then used to pay metro and bus fare by simply swiping over the readers at buses or turnstiles. This greatly reduces wait times for metro tickets and is much easier than paying coins on the bus rides and it is also cheaper as the price per fare is lower for paying with the card than paying with cash. When initially charged with a balance, the card itself should be free or require only a very small deposit. Recommended is buying the card during off-peak times at the metro stations, charging the cards later is then usually with no wait times as many Russians somehow prefer waiting at the cash desks over using the ticket machines. Petersburg, if the amount remaining is worth waiting and effort on the cash desks. The cards work for all metro, tram and trolleybus fares in St. Petersburg and many bus routes. Some private bus routes and most or all Marshrutki do not yet accept the cards, so money in coins may be needed for some routes. Ticket controllers carry a small card reader to verify if the Podorozhnik card was swiped in the bus, so that works as expected. A similar card type exists for Moscow City, the Troika , but the systems do not yet interact, i. Petersburg and the St. Petersburg "Podorozhnik" does not work in Moscow. Stations are deep underground, and transferring trains at transfer stations involves long walks that can take up to 10 minutes. Trains can be extremely crowded during rush hour. Be aware of your belongings and expect to have to push your way out of the train upon arrival at your station. By bus, trolleybus, or tram[edit] Buses - avtobus and trolleybuses - trollejbus run frequently and cover much of the city. Route information is available using Google Maps. Information for trolleybuses and trams is also available online. Both buses and trolleybuses may show the same route number, but the trolleybus route in this case is frequently shorter, and can vary in some minor respects. Trams â€” "tramvai" are not common in the city center due to traffic issues but are available outside the city center. Tickets RUB40, more to the suburbs are sold by attendants on board the vehicle. They usually only speak Russian and prefer exact change. Buses and trolleys on main routes are frequently overcrowded. If you are caught without a valid ticket, you will be fined RUB By taxi[edit] Taxis are always available but are much more expensive at night. Every private vehicle is a potential taxi. Flagging down a vehicle and paying for a ride somewhere is perfectly normal in Russia and quite popular although ill-advised for tourists. Safety is, of course, an issue. As a rule, you should never get in a private cab if it already has passengers inside. Refuse requests from the driver to take on more fares unless you reached your destination; if he insists, ask to stop at a safe-looking place, pay and leave. If the driver stops for gas, step out of the car, take your belongings, and get some fresh air while he is fuelling it. Those travelling alone men and women should wave off any suspicious ride for any reason whatsoever. Gypsy cabs which linger near popular bars and restaurants at night have been known to be

especially dangerous, with several instances of druggings and robberies. Drivers do not usually speak English. Watch out for overpriced taxis outside Hermitage museum. They have meters that run at 4 times the rate of regular taxis. Negotiate a flat fare before getting on the taxi. If the driver insists on using the meter you should walk away. By Uber[edit] Uber is a safer and cheaper method of transport than taxis. Popular alternatives to Uber are: Taxi, Gett and Taxovichkoff all have mobile apps and have similar concept to Uber. By marshrutka[edit] Route taxi - marshrutka is sometimes the fastest way to get somewhere. Vans have seats, are usually white or yellow, always with a letter K followed by the route number plate such as K Often they are small Chinese or Turkish buses. There are no regular stops; you must tell the driver when you want to get out, or wave while on the roadside to stop one. You must pay to the driver at entry, usually RUB Many marshrutka drivers are illegal immigrants and speak Russian poorly if any at all. By local train[edit] Commuter trains , elektrichka may be useful to get to the suburbs. Fares are based on travel distance. Speeds are moderate, but trains operate frequently. Information is available in Russian online. By bicycle[edit] While the terrain in Saint Petersburg is flat, the city is not bicycle-friendly due to limited bike lanes, bad weather, and dangerous car traffic. However, you are allowed to take a bicycle onto the elektrichka trains upon payment of a small fee and go to a less crowded suburb to enjoy a ride. The Hermitage Museum complex from across the Neva River. From left to right: Entrance is free on the first Thursday of every month. A ticket allowing photography costs RUB Some rooms and all temporary exhibits prohibit all kinds of photography. Find a tour group. This may have changed, call the museum ahead of time to find out.: Entry fee is RUB instead of RUB, and includes the photography fee and a whistle-stop tour of the museum but note the free entry for students. Have a scout around for notices with museum tour times in your native language, or in extreme circumstances, ask at the desk. This is where things get slightly surreal. To get to the Tours Office from the main entrance, go forward past the cashiers, and turn left down the corridor. The Tours Office is in front of you at the end, and may or may not be marked. Get yourself a place on your tour, collect the bit of paper, go to cashier No. You can buy tickets on-line, and have a confirmation emailed to you. Hand your booking confirmation and passport to information desk. She will get the ticket office to check your details and issue the tickets. The queues at the ticket office can be long, and purchasing a ticket online can help you bypass this queue first thing in the morning. However, at other times the museum can limit the admission rate because of the numbers already in the museum. There are also ticket machines just before you get to the cash desk which have much shorter lines. The museum has a cafe and large shop near the entrance, and numerous small shops throughout the galleries. Audio guides are available in English, and most signs in the gallery are in English and Russian. Guide books are available for around RUB Russian Museum, Inzhenernaya Ul. An extensive collection of Russian paintings and sculpture. People who are disappointed that the Hermitage is mainly western European art love this museum, since most of the artists are relatively unknown to non-Russians. The main building, the Mikhailovskiy Palace [2] houses the main exhibits, and the Russian Museum also oversees the permanent and temporary exhibits at the Stroganov Palace, Marble Palace and Mikhailovskiy Castle. Tickets to each can be purchased separately or as a universal pass. Petersburg Peter and Paul Fortress. You can go in for free, but to enter the church and exhibitions you need tickets. You can get a combo ticket for everything, or you can just enter the church. Not open to visitors, but worth seeing from the outside. Open 2 times per night to allow boats to pass.

7: EU paves way for Russia sanctions over chemical weapons | News | DW |

In Russia, offering guests whatever they want is considered polite. Those wants don't just include food or accommodations; old-school Russians offer you whatever possessions you comment on, like a picture on the wall, a vase, or a sweater.

The web of financial ties could offer a more concrete path toward potential prosecution than the broader and murkier questions of collusion in the campaign, these sources said. One year after the FBI opened an investigation, the probe is now managed by special counsel Robert Mueller. Sources described an investigation that has widened to focus on possible financial crimes, some unconnected to the elections, alongside the ongoing scrutiny of possible illegal coordination with Russian spy agencies and alleged attempts by President Donald Trump and others to obstruct the FBI investigation. Even investigative leads that have nothing to do with Russia but involve Trump associates are being referred to the special counsel to encourage subjects of the investigation to cooperate, according to two law enforcement sources. But the order establishing the special counsel makes clear Mueller is authorized to investigate any matters that "arose or may arise directly from the investigation. Any inquiry from the special counsel that goes beyond the mandate specified in the appointment we would object to. In the summer of , US intelligence agencies noticed a spate of curious contacts between Trump campaign associates and suspected Russian intelligence, according to current and former US officials briefed on the investigation. The strands of the two investigations began to merge. CNN has learned those communications included references to campaign chairman Paul Manafort. The many unearthed interactions between Trump-world and Russia, documented A year later, the FBI is reviewing financial records related to the Trump Organization, as well as Trump, his family members, including Donald Trump Jr. CNN could not determine whether the review has included his tax returns. In recent weeks, investigators have also started looking into the June meeting in Trump Tower and how the White House responded to news of that meeting. The session included Trump Jr. Trump has denied any collusion and maintains that his business empire has "no involvement with Russia" and that he has "no loans, no nothing" from Russia. His lawyers have detailed a few exceptions, including the Miss Universe pageant he held in Moscow and the Florida mansion he sold to a Russian oligarch in You have to explore the finances. Where this is going is no different from any investigation. These include groups of investigators and lawyers focused separately on Russian collusion and obstruction of justice, as well as the investigations focused on Manafort and former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn, according to a US official briefed on the investigation. Some of the investigators have been pulled from field offices across the country to join the Mueller team in Washington. Others left high-paying jobs at law firms. Many of the investigators have backgrounds in investigating fraud and financial crimes. There are 16 attorneys assigned to the probe, according to a spokesman for Mueller. The appointment of Mueller as special counsel has drawn the ire of Trump and his loyalists, who claim that the team has conflicts of interest. Trump has tweeted about the "witch hunt" more than a dozen times since Mueller was appointed. Some members of the team previously contributed to Democratic campaigns. CNN has learned some of the investigators involved in the probe are buying liability insurance out of concern they could become targets of lawsuits from those who are being investigated, according to one of the people familiar with the probe. The Justice Department covers legal fees for employees sued in the course of their duties, but some of the lawyers want extra protection. Bait and Switch The possible financial ties between Trump and Russia were part of the concerns for US intelligence and law enforcement officials from the beginning, according to one current law enforcement official and one former US intelligence official. Over the decades, the Trump real estate business and its financial dealings have come under scrutiny by the FBI and the Justice Department multiple times. In some cases, the FBI was pursuing others who did business with the Trump organization, including alleged mobsters who controlled key contractors used by many real estate developers in New York during the s. The flow of Russian money in real estate -- and concerns that some buyers were making the purchases to illegally launder money -- had also drawn some attention by US authorities to the Trump business. Terrorism financing concerns long ago put

more stringent rules on banking and other businesses. But the rules are looser in the business of buying and selling high-end real estate, US officials say. Investigators are looking both at whether financial laws were broken and whether there are any dealings that could put the President or his associates in a compromising position. Trump has repeatedly insisted that he has no enduring financial ties to Russian interests. But some of the people who are now under scrutiny by Mueller see a bait and switch. Instead of collusion, many believe the Mueller probe will instead end up being about past financial troubles. Worse yet, some FBI officials fear the question of whether there was any criminal coordination or collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia may never be answered. Everything you need to know One challenge is that tantalizing pieces of intelligence are missing key links because they did not develop long enough for investigators to determine their significance. These include intercepts monitored by US intelligence that showed suggestions of illegal coordination but nothing overt. Instead, prosecutors could pursue financial crime charges unrelated to the election. Investigators also face a big hurdle: Some FBI officials also blame media coverage dating back to last summer for prompting some communications to cease, and making it more difficult for investigators to monitor the interactions of Russians and campaign associates. Over the next four months, the Obama administration officials and law enforcement and intelligence agencies debated how to respond. At the White House, Obama officials scrambled last summer for a strategy on how to respond to what they already knew were Russian actions, well before the administration was willing to point the finger publicly. These included planting malware in Russian infrastructure that could be activated if the Russian actions escalated, according to the former official. But shortly after Daniel gave the order, White House officials raised other concerns. Top officials including Susan Rice, national security adviser, and Lisa Monaco, homeland security adviser, led efforts by the White House to make sure the government could prevent any move by Russian intelligence to tamper with the voting infrastructure and sow chaos on Election Day. Daniel, in an interview, declined to discuss specifics about measures considered in response, because much of the information remains classified. But he said one top concern for White House officials was "it not appear we were trying to be partisan in what we were doing. Monaco traveled to Capitol Hill to try to get top leaders of both parties to send a letter to state governors to urge shoring up of their defenses of election infrastructure. But they were rebuffed by Republican leaders, who viewed the request as partisan, according to current and former officials briefed on the discussions. Daniel told CNN he and his cyber-response group worked quietly, reducing the number of people allowed in meetings to avoid leaks. The technical staff also released a trove of information on Russian cyber-intrusion techniques and malware that current and former officials say forced the Russians to spend time and money coming up with new methods. Paul Manafort, former campaign chairman, Michael Flynn, former national security adviser, Carter Page, cited by Trump as a national security adviser, and Roger Stone, a Trump friend and supporter who openly engaged with hackers calling themselves Guccifer 2. The suspected operatives relayed what they claimed were conversations with Manafort, encouraging help from the Russians. Manafort faces potential real troubles in the probe, according to current and former officials. Decades of doing business with foreign regimes with reputations for corruption, from the Philippines to Ukraine, had led to messy finances. What we know about the Trump campaign, his administration and Russia The focus now for investigators is whether Manafort was involved in money laundering or tax violations in his business dealings with pro-Russia parties in Ukraine. Manafort has not been accused of any wrongdoing. But the Justice Department, and the courts if necessary, should hold someone to account for the flood of unlawful government leaks targeting Mr. That appeared to contradict White House claims that Flynn had not discussed sanctions in his talks with Kislyak. He told the retired lieutenant general that he was sending a couple of FBI agents to discuss a matter with him, according to people familiar with what unfolded. Flynn spoke to McCabe without his lawyer present. At the FBI, the decision to approach Flynn was debated at the highest levels, including by Comey, according to sources familiar with those discussions. FBI officials considered the visit by agents a "duty to warn" matter, a not-uncommon effort by the FBI to warn a US official that foreign spies may be trying to target them. The agents asked Flynn about the Kislyak calls, in part out of concern that Flynn could be vulnerable to blackmail over the content of the conversations. Flynn gave a wobbly explanation of events. Despite the conflicting accounts, FBI investigators have leaned against seeking charges over the Kislyak

PLATE 15. ON THE WAY TO RUSSIA pdf

discussions. Page had been the subject of a secret intelligence surveillance warrant since , earlier than had been previously reported, US officials briefed on the probe told CNN. Initially, FBI counterintelligence investigators saw the campaign as possible victims being targeted by Russian intelligence. Stone denies collusion and says his conversations with Guccifer 2.

8: How To Arrange A Decorative Plate Wall - 20 Beautiful Plate Walls

The exchange rate policy allowed the ruble to fluctuate within 15 percent around a central exchange rate, which Russia intended to maintain at between and rubles to the U.S. dollar between and

The preeminent Russian icon painter was Andrei Rublev – early 15th century, who was "glorified" officially recognized as a saint by the Moscow Patriarchate in His most famous work is The Old Testament Trinity. Icons were frequently clad in metal covers the oklad, or more traditionally, riza, meaning "robe" of gilt or silvered metal of ornate workmanship, which were sometimes enameled, filigreed, or set with artificial, semiprecious or even precious stones and pearls. Pairs of icons of Jesus and Mary were given as wedding presents to newly married couples. There are far more varieties of icons of the Virgin Mary in Russian icon painting and religious use than of any other figure; Marian icons are commonly copies of images considered to be miraculous, of which there are hundreds: Icon of the Crucifixion, Novgorod School, c. Because icons in Orthodoxy must follow traditional standards and are essentially copies, Orthodoxy never developed the reputation of the individual artist as Western Christianity did, and the names of even the finest icon painters are seldom recognized except by some Eastern Orthodox or art historians. Icon painting was and is a conservative art, in many cases considered a craft, in which the painter is essentially merely a tool for replication. The painter did not seek individual glory but considered himself a humble servant of God. That is why in the 19th and early 20th centuries, icon painting in Russia went into a great decline with the arrival of machine lithography on paper and tin, which could produce icons in great quantity and much more cheaply than the workshops of painters. Even today large numbers of paper icons are purchased by Orthodox rather than more expensive painted panels. As the painter did not intend to glorify himself, it was not deemed necessary to sign an icon. Later icons were often the work of many hands, not of a single artisan. Nonetheless some later icons are signed with name of the painter, as well as the date and place. A peculiarity of dates written on icons is that many are dated from the "Creation of the World", which in Eastern Orthodoxy was believed to have taken place on September 1 in the year 5, before the birth of Jesus. During the Soviet era in Russia, former village icon painters in Palekh, Mstyora, and Kholuy transferred their techniques to laquerware, which they decorated with ornate depictions of Russian fairy tales and other non-religious scenes. Most distinguished within this relatively new art form are the intricate Palekh miniature paintings on a black lacquer background. Many Russian icons were destroyed, or sold abroad, by agents of the Soviet government; some were hidden to avoid destruction, or were smuggled out of the country. Since the fall of communism, numbers of icon painting studios have again opened and are painting in a variety of styles for the local and international market. Many older, hidden icons have also been retrieved from hiding, or brought back from overseas. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the market for icons expanded beyond Orthodox believers to include those collecting them as examples of Russian traditional art and culture. The same period witnessed much forgery of icons painted in the Pre-Nikonian manner. Such fakes, often beautifully done, were artificially aged through skillful techniques and sold as authentic to Old Believers and collectors. Some still turn up on the market today, along with numbers of newly painted intentional forgeries, as well as icons sold legitimately as new but painted in earlier styles. Many icons sold today retain some characteristics of earlier painting but are nonetheless obviously contemporary. Painting techniques and collecting[edit] Example of panel cross members or "back slats" used in pre Russian icons Most Russian icons are painted using egg tempera on specially prepared wooden panels, or on cloth glued onto wooden panels. Gold leaf is frequently used for halos and background areas; however, in some icons, silver leaf, sometimes tinted with shellac to look like gold, [4] is used instead, and some icons have no gilding at all. Russian icons may also incorporate elaborate tin, bronze or silver exterior facades that are usually highly embellished and often multi-dimensional. These facades are called rizas or oklads. A regular aspect of icon painting is to varnish over the image with drying oil, either immediately after the paint is dry, or later on. The majority of hand-painted Russian icons exhibit some degree of surface varnish, although many do not. Back slats are sometimes necessary on newer icons of large size for the same reasons warping and stability as existed pre

Age, authenticity, and forgeries[edit] Darkened icon of Ss. Catherine and Paraskeva 16th century, Pskov. Since the s, numerous late 19th- and early 20th-century icons have been artificially aged, then purported to unwitting buyers and collectors as being older than they really are. Often these "semi-forgeries" are perpetrated by master-level Russian icon painters, highly skilled in their ability to not only paint extraordinary works of art, but to "create age" on the finished icon. While the resulting icon may very well be a fine work of art that many would be glad to own, it is still considered to be a work of deception, thus lacking value as an icon beyond its decorative qualities. Another problem area in the field of icon collecting is the "recomposing" of legitimately old icons with newly painted then falsely aged images that exhibit a higher degree of artistry. For example, a primitive or "folk art" icon from the 17th or 18th century might be repainted by a modern master painter, then the image falsely aged to match the panel in order to create an icon that could pass as a 17th- or 18th-century masterwork. In reality, it is nothing more than a 20th- or 21st-century masterwork on a 17th- or 18th-century panel. With the rise in the values and prices of authentic icons in recent decades, this is now also done with lower quality 19th-century folk icons that are repainted by contemporary masters and then artificially aged to appear to match the age of the panel. Legalities[edit] Pursuant to Russian law, it is presently illegal to export any Russian icon that is over one hundred years in age. Any and all icons being exported from Russia must be accompanied by a certificate from the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, attesting to the age of the icon. While Russian law regarding the exportation of icons is quite clear, examples of Russian icons over years of age are regularly introduced into the open market by way of smuggling into the neighboring Baltic countries, or as a result of corrupt Ministry of Culture officials who are willing to certify an otherwise unexportable icon as being " years old" in order to facilitate its transfer. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, many Russian icons have been repatriated via direct purchase by Russian museums, private Russian collectors, or as was the case of Pope John Paul II giving an 18th-century copy of the famous Our Lady of Kazan icon to the Russian Orthodox Church, returned to Russia in good faith. Includes bibliographical references pages Smithsonian Studies in History and Technology: Spiritual And Material Aspects". Journal of the American Institute for Conservation.

9: Russian Culture, Traditions, Holidays, Family and Daily Life

Norwegians go the other way to fill up on cheap gasoline. a Norwegian television journalist and author of the book Russia's Secret War A Lada with a Russian license plate is parked near.

Supplemental material has been added to increase coverage of minor cities, facts have been updated, and some material has been condensed. It embraces a varied topography and has every type of climate except tropical. To the west, Russian territory stretches over a broad plain, broken only by occasional low hills. To the east are the vast Siberian lowlands and the deserts of central Asia. Beyond are the barren Siberian highlands and the mountain ranges of the Russian Far East. Great pine forests cover half the country; south of these are the steppes prairies, where the soil is rich and dark. A small subtropical zone lies south of the steppes, along the shores of the Black and Caspian Seas. Winters are long and cold and summers brief. The Russian Federation is a multi-ethnic state that comprises more than ethnic groups. The majority of the population is Eastern Slavic, but it is made up of peoples belonging to less numerous ethnic groups, including Eskimos. Although most groups are distinguished by their own language and culture, Russian language and traditions are well established, with Russian the common language in government and education. Religion, long suppressed under the Soviet regime, now flourishes, and examples of all major and many less widely practiced religions can be found. Once an underdeveloped, peasant society, Russia made considerable economic progress under Communist rule, mainly by the force of a centralized command economy and basic industrialization. The Russian Federation continues to seek to redefine its relationships with its new independent neighbors, as well as its role in the world. Moscow is first mentioned in history in A. Due to its strategic position on a north-south trade route from Rostov to Ryazan, Moscow was the center of trade and government in what eventually became the Russian Empire. Subsequently, Moscow more than quadrupled in population and territory square kilometers. After a decade-long lapse, the U. In , the U. The Russian Federation emerged as the largest of the new independent states of the former Soviet Union. News correspondents, business representatives, and students from throughout the world live in the Russian capital. There is a heavy, year-round flow of foreign tourists and official delegations. American tourists number about , annually. Moscow contains many attractions of interest for visitors. Those open to the public include the Kremlin; monasteries and churches in and around Moscow, as well as museums, parks, permanent exhibition centers, and a variety of musical, dramatic, and dance attractions. Moscow offers a rich cultural environment, and warrants the enormous local pride in its treasures and traditions. Myriad museums are devoted to the various arts, literature, music, politics, history, and sciences. Hundreds of small churches and large cathedrals throughout the city are open to visitors. In addition to the famous Bolshoi Theater, with its large repertoire of Russian and internationally famous opera and ballet, other theaters and concert halls feature popular and classical plays, concerts, recitals, and all of the performing arts. The Russian circuses with their rich history are overwhelmingly popular with children and adults alike. On the negative side, life in Moscow can be difficult and stressful. Air pollution, severe winter conditions, language barriers, chaotic rush hour traffic, and long hours at work take their toll on even the most well-adjusted residents. Street crime is still a problem and African and Asian Americans have been victims of racially motivated attacks. Utilities Electric clocks and other electrical items with motors designed for 60 cycles may not work correctly; v 50hz items can be purchased locally, if needed. Food For the Western consumer, the availability of food and household products is improving. Most food and household products used by a typical American family can now be purchased. When American brands are not available locally, a European equivalent can usually be purchased. Vendors other than Russian stores and markets include Western outlets such as Stockmann. Rynoks carry a large selection of fresh bread and seasonal as well as imported fresh produce. Meat is also available for purchase, but buying fresh, unrefrigerated meat is risky. Rynoks often have stalls that stock non-food items, such as cleaning products, soft drinks and liquor, health care products, pet food and paper goods at prices that are cheaper than in the other stores. In many instances the quality of the products tends to be lower. Larger rynoks also sell flowers, plants, clothing items, and leather goods. Be aware, however, that shopping in rynoks can

pose challenges, including the need to maneuver through crowded spaces and language problems for non-Russian speakers. Bargaining is an accepted and common practice at *rynoks* but not at conventional stores and supermarkets, where prices are marked. Moscow winters can be very cold, especially if one is used to winter temperatures above freezing. It is necessary to be prepared for the harsh winter climate with plenty of warm clothing and outerwear. Men and women often wait until they arrive to buy a fur hat, and many women also purchase fur coats and boots locally. Summers are short and often cool. Sweaters and a coat are necessary no matter what time of year you arrive. The best type of clothing to have in Moscow is washable since clothing soils easily. Sturdy, waterproof clothing and footwear with good treads is essential. Sidewalks can be slick in winter and muddy and wet during the rest of the year. One should consider bringing enough clothing to last until replacements can be ordered through catalogs or while on leave outside of Russia. Slippers or clogs are useful around the house in winter and spring as mud, ice, salt, and dirt can be tracked in off the streets and playgrounds. Russians usually take off their shoes when entering a home and children are expected to , so it is appropriate to have a couple of extra pairs of slippers for guests who do not feel comfortable coming into your home with their shoes on. Slippers can be purchased locally. Sports equipment and sportswear should be brought to Moscow when possible. There are various recreational activities at hand, including swimming, soccer, baseball, volleyball, cycling, rollerblading, etc. Western winter sports equipment can be found around town but the prices tend to be high. Cross-country skiing, ice-skating and sledding are all common winter sports. The outdoor tennis court at Rosinka is also turned into a skating rink during the winter. Both heavy and light topcoats are desirable for spring and fall. Men wear down parkas and heavy topcoats appropriate for evening over their suits in the winter. Lined raincoats are not warm enough in the dead of winter although many people wear them in the spring and fall. Warm gloves, warm and waterproof boots, and a warm hat are all essential. Building interiors are often too hot by American standards in winter, but in fall and spring, when there is no central heating, indoors can be uncomfortably cool. Light sweaters or vests that can be worn under suit jackets are convenient. Bring appropriate cold-weather clothes for outdoor sports. Lighter wool suits are desirable for summer wear. In general, women in Moscow wear the same style clothing as worn in the U. Moderately dressy suits with nice blouses and dresses are worn most often for receptions, dinners, and evenings out. Women need a light coat, raincoat, and heavy coat. Warm, waterproof, thick-soled boots, rainboots, warm gloves or mittens, and thermal or silk long underwear are useful. It is quite common and completely acceptable by Russian standards to wear sturdy boots to a dinner or reception, carrying other "inside" shoes and changing upon arrival. Sportswear, a bathing suit, and a large supply of stockings, tights, and underwear are important to bring, although they may all be obtained locally at prices higher than in the U. Children can never have enough hats and scarves, sets of gloves and mittens, rain boots and rain gear, as well as snowsuits, pants and boots. Babies need warm winter clothing. Scarves, hats, mittens, and wool clothing for infants are available locally, but the prices are much higher than one would pay in the U. Be aware that prices are often much higher than in the U. CDs are available for sale in kiosks around town and in music stores. There is even a CD *rynok*. There are numerous computer stores and a computer *rynok* in Moscow, but it could be more affordable to buy dual-voltage equipment, computer games and supplies in the U. Computer paper, ribbon cartridges and other computer supplies are available at computer stores, kiosks and large bookstores. Be advised that the locally available A4 size paper may not fit all printers. E-mail and Internet surfing helps keep visitors in touch with the U. There are several providers from which to choose. Plan to spend about twice as much for an internet connection in Moscow as you might in the U. Cable service is available. Religious Activities Most major religions are now represented in Moscow although services in English are not always available. The school accepts children from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. It is located at the Pokrovsky Hills Hines complex; children living in Pokrovsky Hills can walk to school. The school usually opens during the third or fourth week in August. Most schools in Moscow are unable to accept children with special needs. If your child has an individual educational program IEP , or needs assistance outside the classroom, please discuss these requirements with school officials as far in advance as possible. Other Educational Opportunities Piano rentals, music lessons, horseback riding, fencing, gymnastics, ballet classes, and private tutors for Russian and other languages are reasonably priced. Sports Spectator sports include hockey, football soccer ,

PLATE 15. ON THE WAY TO RUSSIA pdf

and basketball. A large number of international tournaments and championships are held, with increased participation by U. Some people have participated in such diverse outdoor sports as skydiving, whitewater rafting, and wild game hunting.

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