



Moscow to Yekaterinburg

Includes

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Route Info

- ➔ Distance: 1814km
- ➔ Duration: 26 hours
- ➔ Time zones: Moscow, Moscow +5

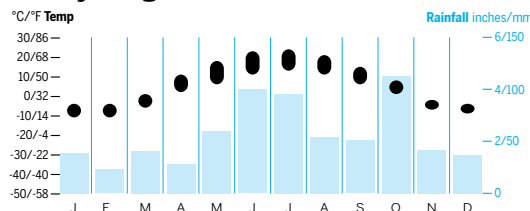
Best Places to Stay & Eat

- ➔ Smile (p130)
- ➔ Jouk-Jacques hotel (p131)
- ➔ Hotel Giuseppe (p121)
- ➔ Grill Taverna Montenegro (p135)
- ➔ Perekrestok Dzhaza (p121)

Why Go?

For travellers, this section of the journey across European Russia will often be accompanied by the excitement of the journey ahead. It is a relatively densely populated section with three main routes. One veers northeast via Yaroslavl and a second (used by Yekaterinburg's flagship Ural train 16) goes southeast via multicultural Kazan. The more usual route, however, passes through the ancient town of Vladimir. Then at Nizhny Novgorod it crosses the Volga – a geographic highlight of this leg – before continuing to Perm, which has several good cultural sights and access to the Perm-36 former prison camp. Kungur, set in rolling hills, has a spectacular ice cave, and finally the train rattles sublimely across the Europe-Asia border and into Yekaterinburg. Note that if you're planning to stop at Golden Ring towns, it's only worth booking a *kupe* (2nd-class compartment) from Nizhny Novgorod onwards.

When to Go Nizhny Novgorod



Feb Much of the Volga River will be frozen over and draped in a winter landscape.

Late Apr–late May A spring sun warms the air and life moves onto the streets.

Late Jul–Sep It's navigation season on the Volga and hiking is excellent in the Ural Mountains.

Moscow to Yekaterinburg Highlights

- 1 Exploring the museums of **Nizhny Novgorod** (p127)
- 2 Taking in one of the Golden Ring towns such as exquisite **Suzdal** (p120)
- 3 Strolling through the ice cave of **Kungur** (p137) and enjoying a moment of pitch darkness
- 4 Sailing the **Volga** on a short excursion in Nizhny Novgorod (p127) or Kazan (p120)
- 5 Wandering through multicultural **Kazan** (p120), Tatarstan's dynamic capital
- 6 Checking out the shock of the new at **PERMM** (p132), Perm's museum of modern and contemporary art
- 7 Taking a tour through **Perm-36** (p136), the haunting Gulag camp memorial

