



The Moscow Metro is a huge underground city, the most important part and business card of the capital. This is the attraction that the concierges of Moscow hotels tell guests about almost every day. Why is it so remarkable?

The idea of launching an underground railway in Moscow arose back in 1875, but the work began when it became obvious that trams could not cope with the traffic of citizens: on January 6, 1931, due to heavy snowfall, Moscow transport, including cabs, froze in a traffic jam for the whole day.

On December 10, 1931, seven workers with shovels came to the courtyard of house 13 on Rusakovskaya Street - this is how the construction of the first experimental section of the metro began. The first line - Sokolnicheskaya - was inaugurated on May 15, 1935; at the time of launch, it consisted of 13 stations, had a length of 11.3 km and went from the Sokolniki station to the Okhotny Ryad station with a branch to Park Kultury and Smolenskaya.



For 2022, the Moscow metro consists of 14 lines with a total length of 414.7 km (excluding the monorail and the MCC). The Moscow metro has 241 stations, and by 2024, according to the plans of the Moscow government, another 25 stations and 58 kilometers of lines are to be built. Today, the Moscow metro has more than 6,000 carriages, more than 12,500 trains per day, serviced by more than 60,000 employees, and carries more than 9 million passengers on weekdays at normal times. A new



transport era in 2016 was opened by the 54-kilometer Moscow Central Circle (MCC). The city railway has 31 stations, is integrated into the metro structure, and is used by ultra-modern and ultra-high-speed Lastochka trains.

In 2019, Moscow launched a new megaproject - Moscow Central Diameters (MCD). The railway lines connecting Moscow with the Moscow region, form a single transport system with the metro.

Interesting Facts:

- There are two "Smolenskaya" and two "Arbatskaya" stations in the Moscow metro, because during the Great Patriotic War two old stations were damaged by a bomb. Two new stations and a new line were built, and later, in the late 1950s, the old stations were rebuilt and reopened.
- The stations are announced as a male voice during the movement of trains to the center of Moscow, and in a female voice during the movement from the center. On the Circle Line, a male voice announces the station when moving clockwise, and a female voice when moving counterclockwise. This is done for the orientation of blind and visually impaired citizens.
- There is a fountain in the passage connecting the Ploshchad Ilycha and Rimskaya stations.
- Park Pobedy station, which lies at a depth of 73 meters, is the deepest in the Moscow metro.
- The Moscow Metro is one of five Moscow sights included in Patricia Schultz's guide "1000 Places to See Before You Die".



- 48 stations of the Moscow metro are recognized as cultural heritage sites, and more than 40 are architectural monuments.
- In 2013, the Moscow Metro Passenger Mobility Center was founded. The center's specialists accompany passengers with disabilities free of charge along the entire route from the entrance to the metro to the exit, and help to find their way around the city.
- The Moscow metro is now also a cultural site. Themed trains are regularly launched here, musicians perform, put on performances, conduct excursions, exhibition spaces are being created.

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