



The Museum of Soviet Arcade Games is a private museum with interactive exhibits: with a few exceptions, all of arcade machines are functioning and playable.

However, the museum is not just to play for us: arcade machines are a big symbol of the Soviet Era. From the mid-1970s to the 1990s, arcade machines were a primary source of entertainment for the Soviet population.

Along with special gaming halls, machines could be found in parks, cinemas, hotels and in young pioneer camps — places for children’s vacations during the summer and winter holidays, a widespread phenomenon in socialist countries.



By playing arcade machines you do not only entertain yourselves but

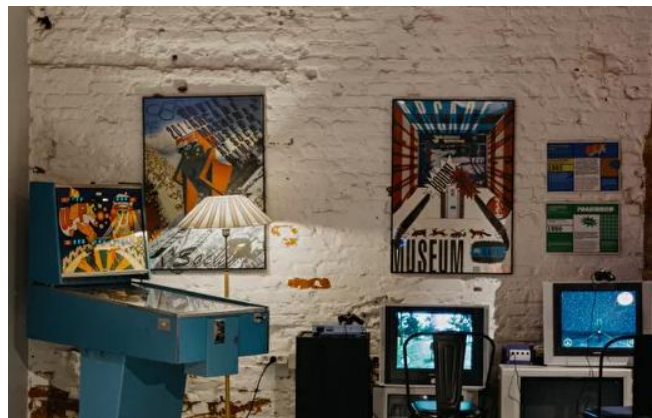


also look into the past. We can learn how the machines were produced, get a better idea about Soviet industrial design, technology and engineering achievements.

Apart from arcade machines themselves, there are vending machines with the original Soviet soda, the legendary Voronezh-2 mixer for authentic Soviet milkshakes — the recipe hasn't changed — and authentic coin-changing machines.

“When we interact with arcade machines, do we not simply play but are introduced to something bigger: the history of the game industry and technology.”

The gambling element in arcades was transformed in the USSR: a win was not rewarded with a cash prize. Instead, a deft player received either a bonus game or some sort of a gift, or, for example, a commemorative badge. In



addition, the machines, according to their developers, helped master a good eye, reaction speed, logic and memory – all things that were central to the ideal Soviet citizen.

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