

- 1. What is the history of Yekaterinburg?**
- 2. What are the main facts about the city today?**
- 3. What sights make the city attractive for tourists?**
- 4. What sights in the city are popular with sports fans?**
- 5. What place in the city is historically connected with the last royal family?**
- 6. How is it possible to get to Yekaterinburg?**
- 7. What are the weather conditions in Yekaterinburg?**

**A.** Yekaterinburg is located at the crossroads of two continents – Europe and Asia. It is the capital of the Sverdlovsk region and the administrative centre of the Ural district. Yekaterinburg covers the area of more than 400,00 square kilometres. It is the fourth largest city in Russia with a population of over 1.5 million people. Yekaterinburg is often called the third capital of Russia, as it is ranked third by the size of its economy, transportation, and tourism.



**B.** Yekaterinburg is far away from the Atlantic and close to Siberia. So the climate there is continental. The Ural Mountains block air from the west, from the European part of Russia. As a result, the Central Urals are open to cold arctic air. The winters are cold and long, and the summers are quite warm in Yekaterinburg. The coldest month is January, when the average temperature reaches -16°C. The warmest month is July with the average temperature of 18°C.

**C.** Yekaterinburg was founded in 1723 under Peter the Great as the largest metallurgical plant in Russia of those times. It was named after Empress Catherine I, the wife of Peter the Great. Yekaterinburg became a key city in Siberia which has rich resources. It served as an important connection between Europe and Asia. For three centuries, Yekaterinburg has been steadily developing as a centre of the mining industry of the Urals and Siberia.

**D.** Nowadays, Yekaterinburg is not only one of the biggest industrial centres in Russia but a very beautiful city. It has a lot of monuments of historical and cultural value. Dozens of museums, several theatres, many modern cinemas, stadiums, and colleges make Yekaterinburg a unique city where the past and the present live side by side. There are a lot of interesting places to visit, such as the Cathedral on the Blood, Opera House, and Europe-Asia border obelisk.

**E.** The Cathedral on the Blood is an important place for Russian people and a historic site located in Yekaterinburg. It stands on the spot of the former Ipatiev House where the members of the Romanov Tsar family were killed in July 1918. The Cathedral was built in 2003. And soon it became one of the main city sights. It attracts thousands of pilgrims from Russia and worldwide. In front of the church, there is a monument to the Romanov family.

**F.** Resting in the Ural region, Yekaterinburg is a great city where East meets West. It is a

major transport hub in Siberia. It is at the centre of a multi-modal transport network with road, rail and air communications connecting the city with the rest of the country and other countries. Yekaterinburg airport is the principal gateway to the city, the Urals and Siberia at large. The airport serves a wide range of domestic and international lines handling over 7 million passengers per year.

	A	B	C	D	E	F

- 1. What makes Moscow very popular among tourists?**
- 2. What is the best season for tourists to visit Moscow?**
- 3. What are good and bad things about the city transport?**
- 4. What is special about the Moscow underground?**
- 5. What theatres should be visited in Moscow?**
- 6. What is Moscow's most famous shopping mall?**
- 7. What are the presents to be brought from Moscow?**

A. The peak of the Moscow travel season is May through September. However, tourists may prefer to travel to Moscow during the low travel season. The snowy winter months offer just as many entertainment options as one can find during summer. Tourists can celebrate New Year's Eve or see Russia's biggest ice rink on Red Square, or visit one of the local winter markets. Any Moscow tour has plenty of memorable experiences the whole year round.



B. As one of the largest cities in the world, Moscow comes with its share of traffic problems. It seems that all of the world's most expensive black cars are here, and there are a lot of traffic jams. Still, while the traffic situation leaves much to be desired, the Moscow underground is superb. The advanced Metro system carries up to 9 million passengers a day on weekdays, and its trains run every few minutes. It is a convenient way of travelling around.

C. When people travel to Moscow, they want to see the red-bricked walls of the Kremlin, take a picture in front of St. Basil's Cathedral, and visit the world-famous Bolshoi Theatre. All of these places are located within a very small area around Red Square. So seeing them on a walking sightseeing tour of Moscow is convenient and allows visitors to avoid traffic jams. The concentration of Moscow main sights makes this city a world-class tourist destination.

D. Set in the heart of Moscow the State Department Store known as GUM produces a great impression on visitors. It was built between 1890 and 1893 to replace the old trading rows of 1825. The building stretches along Red Square's eastern side. The entire structure is a

beautiful testament to Russian architecture with its mix of medieval and modern features. The glass roof allows natural light to flood into this three-story palace.

- E. The Moscow Metro has been a much-needed mass transit project. But it is not just a series of trains and tunnels. The Moscow Metro is like a whole underground city that holds the world's largest collection of Soviet Art. The first stations were opened on May 15, 1935. They were described as one of the greatest architectural projects of that time. The original 13 stations, along with many others that were built later, feature unique works of art.
- F. The most exciting part of any journey is the memories people create while discovering new places. And souvenirs are among the most popular options to save the happiest moments not only in one's heart but in the form of something more material. Apart from classic T-shirts and fridge magnets with local attractions, many other things can bring to mind the best moments of Moscow trip. The gifts range from Matryoshka dolls to the Tretyakov Gallery photo album.

	A	B	C	D	E	F

### 'The 1900 House'

'The 1900 House' was a reality television programme in Britain. It took people back a hundred years to the time of Queen Victoria, when there were no computers, mobile phones or the Internet. The idea of the show was to give people an experience of living in the past.

A modern family, the Bowler family, spent three months living like people at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. There were the parents (Paul and Joyce) and their four children (three daughters and a son). The cameras recorded them every day. The house didn't have a telephone, a fridge, a TV set or even central heating. The Bowlers wore clothes from 1900 and ate the food that existed in England at that time. There wasn't much to choose from. The main dishes on the table were meat and fish, and the day usually started with a cup of tea and porridge.



The father of the family, Paul Bowler, still went to work but in an old-fashioned uniform. He couldn't read newspapers or use a computer. The mother, Joyce, became a housewife and stayed home. She did all the cleaning, washing and cooking. The children still went to school, but they changed their clothes on the way to and from school so their classmates wouldn't know anything about this unusual project.

The Bowlers noticed that life at the beginning of the century was much slower. It was rather hard for them to get used to the new speed. For example, it took 28 minutes to boil water and make a cup of tea. And can you imagine cleaning the house without a vacuum cleaner or washing clothes without a washing machine? There wasn't any toothpaste or modern shampoo. Without central heating nobody thought about a warm bath or a shower in the morning.

Toothbrushes were made of pig and horse hair. Toothpaste was expensive so most people cleaned their teeth using salt or soda. The children thought it was horrible.

11-year-old Hilary said, “The most difficult thing was finding entertainment. We couldn’t go to the cinema or to a café. It was a new experience to be with the family for half a day or more. It was new and hard to be nice to each other all the time. But I really think we all became closer.”

17-year-old Kathryn remembered that she couldn’t wear any make-up. She had to wear a corset every day and had only three sets of clothes: one to wear every day, the second – to wear while cleaning, and the third was for special events, like celebrations.

When the show was over the Bowlers were asked: what did you miss most from the modern world? The father said it was a hot shower. The mother had longed to have a quick cup of tea. The daughters said it was the music, the hot water, shampoo and “normal sounds like the washing machine” that they missed. For the son it was pizza and the computer.

It’s interesting that the family was allowed to keep anything they wanted after the project. Joyce took her corset and each of the children took something from the house to remind them of their experience.

**№13. Выберите правильный ответ.**

*‘The 1900 House’ is a TV programme about Queen Victoria’s life.*

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

**№14. There were only two rooms and a kitchen in the house.**

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

**№15. During the project Mr Bowler learnt the news from the newspapers.**

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

**№16. The children had to miss their school classes because of the project.**

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

**№17. Because of the project Hilary had to spend more time with her family.**

- 1) True
- 2) False
- 3) Not stated

*Nº18. During the project it was difficult for the Bowler's boy to live without his computer.*

- 1) True**
- 2) False**
- 3) Not stated**

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*Nº19. After the project the family bought a new house.*

- 1) True**
- 2) False**
- 3) Not stated**