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features of [Russian architecture](#) were first introduced in Pskov.



Siege of Pskov by *Stephen Báthory*, by *Karl Bryullov*

Finally, in 1510, the city fell to [Muscovite](#) forces.^[7] The deportation of noble families to [Moscow](#) is a subject of [Rimsky-Korsakov's](#) *opera Pskovityanka* (1872). As the second largest city of the Grand Duchy of Moscow, Pskov still attracted enemy armies. Most famously, it withstood a [prolonged siege](#) by a 50,000-strong [Polish](#) army during the final stage of the [Livonian War](#) (1581–1582). The king of Poland [Stephen Báthory](#) undertook some thirty-one attacks to storm the city, which was defended mainly by civilians. Even after one of the city walls was broken, the Pskovians managed to fill the gap

and repel the attack. "It's amazing how the city reminds me of Paris", wrote one of the Frenchmen present at Báthory's siege.

Modern history [\[edit\]](#)

[Peter the Great's](#) conquest of [Estonia](#) and [Latvia](#) during the [Great Northern War](#) in the early 18th century spelled the end of Pskov's traditional role as a vital border fortress and a key to Russia's interior. As a consequence, the city's importance and well-being declined dramatically, although it has served as a seat of separate [governorate](#) since 1777. It was here that the last Russian [Tsar](#) abdicated in [March 1917](#).

During [World War I](#), Pskov became the center of much activity behind the [lines](#), and after the Russo-German [Brest-Litovsk Peace Conference](#) (December 22, 1917–March 3, 1918), the [Imperial German Army](#) invaded the area. Pskov was also occupied by the [Estonian](#) army between February 1919 and July 1919 during the [Estonian War of Independence](#).

Under Soviet government, large parts of the city were rebuilt, many ancient buildings, particularly churches, were demolished to give space for new constructions. During [World War II](#), the medieval citadel provided little protection against modern artillery of Wehrmacht, and Pskov suffered substantial damage during the [German](#) occupation from July 9, 1941 until July 23, 1944. Though a huge portion of the population died during the war, Pskov has since struggled to regain its traditional position as a major industrial and cultural center of Western Russia.

Administrative and municipal status [\[edit\]](#)

Pskov is the [administrative center](#) of the [oblast](#)^[*citation needed*] and, within the [framework of administrative divisions](#), it also serves as the administrative center of [Pskovsky District](#),^[*citation needed*] even though it is not a part of it.^[1] As an administrative division, it is incorporated separately as the **City of Pskov**—an administrative unit with the status equal to that of the [districts](#).^[1] As a [municipal division](#), the City of Pskov is incorporated as **Pskov Urban Okrug**.^[2]

Landmarks and sights [\[edit\]](#)

Pskov still preserves much of its medieval walls, built from the 13th century on. Its medieval [citadel](#) is called either the Krom or the Kremlin. Within its walls rises the 256-foot (78 m)-tall [Trinity Cathedral](#), founded in 1138 and rebuilt in the 1690s. The cathedral contains the tombs of saint princes [Vsevolod](#) (died in 1138) and [Dovmont](#) (died in 1299). Other ancient cathedrals adorn the [Mirozhsky Monastery](#) (completed by 1152), famous for its 12th-century [frescoes](#), St. John's (completed by 1243), and the Snetogorsky monastery (built in 1310 and stucco-painted in 1313).

Pskov is exceedingly rich in tiny, squat, picturesque churches, dating mainly from the 15th and the 16th centuries. There are many dozens of them, the most notable being St. Basil's on the Hill (1413), St. Kozma and Demian's near the Bridge (1463), St. George's from the Downhill (1494), Assumption from the Ferryside (1444, 1521), and St. Nicholas' from Usokha (1536). The 17th-century residential architecture is represented by merchant [mansions](#), such as the Salt House, the [Pogankin Palace](#), and the Trubinsky mansion.

Among the sights in the vicinity of Pskov are [Izborsk](#), a seat of [Rurik's](#) brother in the 9th century and one of the most formidable fortresses of medieval Russia; the [Pskov Monastery of the Caves](#), the oldest continually functioning monastery in Russia and a magnet for pilgrims from all over the country; the 16th-century [Krypetsky Monastery](#); [Yelizarov Convent](#), which used to be a great cultural and literary center of medieval Russia; and [Mikhaylovskoye](#), a family home of [Alexander Pushkin](#) where he wrote some of the best known lines in the [Russian language](#). The national poet of Russia is buried in the ancient cloister at the Holy Mountains nearby. Unfortunately, the area presently has only a minimal [tourist infrastructure](#), and the historic core of Pskov requires serious investments to realize its great tourist potential.

Climate [\[edit\]](#)

Administratively subordinated to	City of Pskov ^[1]
Administrative center of	Pskov Oblast , ^[<i>citation needed</i>] Pskovsky District , ^[<i>citation needed</i>] City of Pskov ^[1]
Municipal status (as of February 2005)	
Urban okrug	Pskov Urban Okrug ^[2]
Administrative center of	Pskov Urban Okrug , ^[2] Pskovsky Municipal District ^[2]
City Head ^[<i>citation needed</i>]	Ivan Tsetsersky ^[<i>citation needed</i>]
Representative body	City Duma ^[<i>citation needed</i>]
Statistics	
Population (2010 Census)	203,279 inhabitants ^[3]
- Rank in 2010	91st
Time zone	MSK (UTC+04:00) ^[4]
First mentioned	903 ^[<i>citation needed</i>]
Postal code(s)	180xxx ^[<i>citation needed</i>]
Dialing code(s)	+7 8112 ^[<i>citation needed</i>]
Official website [i]	
 Pskov on WikiCommons	



The mid-12th century cathedral of St. John. Dozens of similar quaint little churches are scattered throughout Pskov.



A Russian coin commemorating Pskov's 1,100th anniversary

The climate of Pskov is **humid continental** (Köppen climate classification *Dfb*) with maritime influences due to the city's relative proximity to the **Baltic Sea** and **Gulf of Finland**; with relative soft but long winter (usually five months per year) and warm summer. Summer and fall have more precipitation than winter and spring.

Climate data for Pskov													
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Record high °C (°F)	9.8 (49.6)	11.3 (52.3)	18.5 (65.3)	27.6 (81.7)	32.0 (89.6)	32.6 (90.7)	35.0 (95)	35.6 (96.1)	30.3 (86.5)	22.6 (72.7)	14.1 (57.4)	10.8 (51.4)	35.6 (96.1)
Average high °C (°F)	−3.2 (26.2)	−2.6 (27.3)	2.4 (36.3)	10.4 (50.7)	17.5 (63.5)	21.2 (70.2)	22.6 (72.7)	21.2 (70.2)	15.2 (59.4)	8.8 (47.8)	2.0 (35.6)	−1.6 (29.1)	9.5 (49.1)
Average low °C (°F)	−8.8 (16.2)	−9.3 (15.3)	−4.8 (23.4)	1.0 (33.8)	6.4 (43.5)	10.8 (51.4)	12.5 (54.5)	11.2 (52.2)	6.7 (44.1)	2.4 (36.3)	−2.5 (27.5)	−6.7 (19.9)	1.6 (34.8)
Record low °C (°F)	−40.6 (−41.1)	−37.6 (−35.7)	−29.7 (−21.5)	−20.9 (−5.6)	−5.1 (22.8)	−0.1 (31.8)	2.7 (36.9)	1.3 (34.3)	−4.6 (23.7)	−12.2 (10)	−23.8 (−10.8)	−40.3 (−40.5)	−40.6 (−41.1)
Precipitation mm (inches)	35 (1.38)	29 (1.14)	31 (1.22)	37 (1.46)	45 (1.77)	67 (2.64)	77 (3.03)	77 (3.03)	66 (2.6)	51 (2.01)	53 (2.09)	46 (1.81)	614 (24.17)

Source: Pogoda.ru.net^[8]

Economy [edit]

- JSC "AVAR" (AvtoElectroArmatura). Electric equipment production for cars, lorries buses and tractors (relays, switches, fuses, electronic articles)
- Pskov is served by **Pskov Airport** which was also used for military aviation.

Notable people [edit]

- Sergei Fedorov**, hockey player
- Oxana Fedorova**, Miss Universe 2002
- Mikhail Golitsyn**, statesman
- Isaak Kikoin**, physicist
- Veniamin Kaverin**, writer

International relations [edit]

See also: *List of twin towns and sister cities in Russia*

Twin towns and sister cities [edit]

Pskov is **twinned** with the following cities:^[9]

 Arles, France	 Nijmegen, Netherlands
 Białystok, Poland	 Norrtälje, Sweden
 Chernihiv, Ukraine	 Perth, Scotland, United Kingdom
 Gera, Germany	 Roanoke, Virginia, United States
 Kuopio, Finland	 Tartu, Estonia
 Mianyang, Sichuan, China	 Valmiera, Latvia
 Neuss, Germany	 Vitebsk, Belarus

References [edit]

Notes [edit]

- ↑ ^{*abcdef*} Law #833-oz
- ↑ ^{*abcd*} Law #419-oz.
- ↑ ^{*ab*} "Всероссийская перепись населения 2010 года. Том 1" [2010 All-Russian Population Census, vol. 1] . *Всероссийская перепись населения 2010 года (2010 All-Russia Population Census)* (in Russian). Federal State Statistics Service. 2011. Retrieved June 29, 2012.
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- ↑ MacLean, Fitzroy (March 18, 1979). Pskov: A Journey Into Russia's Past , *The New York Times*
- ↑ "Pogoda.ru.net" (in Russian). Retrieved September 8, 2007.
- ↑ Города-побратимы (*Twin cities*) . Краеведческий Архив Псковской области. Retrieved 2010-02-27.

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as of the official publication date.)

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External links [edit]

- Official website of Pskov (Russian)
- Nortfort.ru. Pskov fortress
- The Pskov Power. Archive of the Pskov area of regional studies
- Annette M. B. Meakin (1906). "Pskoff" . *Russia, Travels and Studies* . London: Hurst and Blackett. OCLC 3664651 .
- "Pskov" . *The Encyclopaedia Britannica* (11th ed.). New York: Encyclopaedia Britannica. 1910. OCLC 14782424 .

VTE	Administrative divisions of Pskov Oblast		
	Administrative center: Pskov		
	Cities and towns	Dno Gdov Nevel Novorzhev Novosokolniki Opochnka Ostrov Pechory Porkhov Pskov Pustoshka Pytalovo Sebezh Velikiye Luki	
	Districts	Bezhanitsky Dedovichsky Dnovsky Gdovsky Krasnogorodsky Kunyinsky Loknyansky Nevelsky Novorzhevsky Novosokolnichesky Opochetsky Ostrovsky Palkinsky Pechorsky Plyussky Porkhovsky Pskovsky Pushkingorsky Pustoshkinsky Pytalovsky Sebezhsy Strugo-Krasnensky Usvyatsky Velikoluksky	
VTE	Major fortresses of Western Russia		
	Brest-Litovsk fortress Gdov Ivangorod Izborsk Kirillov Koporye Korela Kronstadt Ladoga New Dvina Fort Novgorod Oreshek Porkhov Pskov Smolensk Solovki St. Petersburg Trångsund Vyborg Yamburg 19th-century fortifications		
VTE	 World Heritage Sites in Russia by federal district		
	Central	Church of the Ascension in Kolomenskoye Moscow Kremlin and Red Square Novodevichy Convent Trinity Sergius Lavra White Monuments of Vladimir and Suzdal Historic Centre of Yaroslavl	
	Southern	Western Caucasus	
	Northwestern	Curonian Spit ¹ Ferapontov Monastery Kizhi Pogost Virgin Komi Forests Historic Monuments of Novgorod and Surroundings Historic Centre of Saint Petersburg and Surroundings Solovetsky Islands Struve Geodetic Arc ²	
	Far Eastern	Lena Pillars Volcanoes of Kamchatka Central Sikhote-Alin Wrangel Island	
	Siberian	Golden Mountains of Altai Lake Baikal Putorana Plateau Uvs Nuur Basin ³	
	Volga	Kazan Kremlin	
	North Caucasian	Citadel, Ancient City and Fortress Buildings of Derbent	
	¹ Shared with Lithuania ² Shared with nine other countries ³ Shared with Mongolia		
Categories: Pskov Cities of Military Glory World Heritage Sites in Russia			

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