

A brief guide to Moscow

for participants of International Conference
“Stochastic Optimization and Optimal Stopping”
24–28 September, 2012

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Do not hesitate to contact us in case of difficulties. We hope you enjoy your stay in Moscow!

1. Conference venue

The conference will be held in **Steklov Mathematical Institute**, in the conference hall on the 9th floor. On 24 September, the registration will start at 9:10.

The address of the Institute: 8, ulitsa Gubkina; metro stations “Akademicheskaya” (15 minutes by foot) or “Leninsky prospekt” (8 minutes by tram), both are in the south part of the orange line; see the maps on pages 3–5. The Institute is a pink 9-storey building.

Wi-Fi is available: the network name is “MIAN-FREE” (on the 9th and the 2nd floors). You can also use PCs available in room 415 (4th floor).

A canteen is located on the first floor.

2. Useful information

- **Registration upon arrival to Russia.** Registration is mandatory as required by the Russian law and must be made within 3 days after your arrival. Registration can be made by your hotel (ask at the reception). You must always carry your passport and registration card with you.
- **Currency.** The official currency in Russia is the Russian ruble. You can exchange currency at almost any bank. The exchange rate is approximately 30.50 rubles for 1 USD and 40.00 rubles for 1 euro as of 15 September. ATMs are widely available; credit cards may be not accepted at small shops.
- **Public transport.** The most convenient means of transport in Moscow is the metro. One ride costs 28 rubles (flat fare), tickets can be bought at station entrances. It is more convenient to buy multi-ride tickets (2, 5, 10, 20 rides). Credit cards are not accepted. The metro operates from 6:00 to 1:00.

Another means of transport are buses, trolleybuses and trams. A ticket costs 28 rubles (flat fare) and can be bought from the driver. A vehicle should be entered through the front door.

- **Getting from/to the airports.** Moscow has 3 airports: Sheremetyevo, Domodedovo and Vnukovo. The airports are connected with the city by “Aeroexpress” trains. Trains from Sheremetyevo arrive to Belorussky railway station (“Belorusskaya” metro station – the green and the circle lines), trains from Domodedovo arrive to Paveletsky railway station (“Paveletskaya” metro station – the green and the circle lines), trains from Vnukovo arrive to Kievsky railway station (“Kievskaya” metro station – the blue and the circle lines). The fare is 320 rubles, the journey time is 35 minutes from Sheremetyevo and Vnukovo, 45 minutes from Domodedovo. Trains operate from 06:00 to 24:00.

A taxi to the city costs 2000-2500 rubles depending on the distance.

- **Expected weather:** 14-18°C, partly cloudy, light rain.

3. Social program

We welcome you to the following social events, all of them will start after the talks finish:

- Welcome party – Monday, on the 9th floor of the Institute.
- City tour for foreign participants – Tuesday, the bus will depart at ~16:30 from the Institute.
- Conference party – Friday, on the 9th floor of the Institute.

4. Major sights

If you need a companion for sightseeing, do not hesitate to ask us!

- **The Kremlin and Red square.** The nearest metro stations are “Okhotny ryad” (the red line), “Biblioteka imeni Lenina” (the red line), “Aleksandrovsky sad” (the light blue line).

The Kremlin is open 10:00–17:00 every day except Thursday, the entrance is located near “Biblioteka imeni Lenina” and “Aleksandrovsky sad” stations. Inside the Kremlin, we highly suggest visiting The Armoury (“Oryzheinaya palata” in Russian), which holds a large collection of Tsars’ treasures, and The Diamond fund (“Almazny fond”). Tickets can be bought at the entrance to the Kremlin. The Armoury has only 4 visiting sessions per day at 10:00, 12:00, 14:30, 16:30.

Other places of interest inside the Kremlin are Cathedral square (The Cathedral of the Dormition, The Cathedral of the Annunciation and The Cathedral of the Archangel Michael), The Ivan the Great Bell Tower, The Tsar Bell (located on a pedestal near the bell tower) and The Tsar Cannon (located near the Armoury).

Red square is best accessible from “Okhotny ryad” station (though it is only 10 minutes from the Kremlin entrance). The major sights located there are:

- Saint Basil’s Cathedral (the multi-dome church) – open 11:00–17:00 every day except Tuesday;
- State Historical Museum (the large red building at the entrance to Red square) – open 11:00–18:00 every day except Tuesday;
- GUM department store – the oldest department store in Moscow; opposite the Kremlin wall;
- Lenin’s mausoleum – closed until December.

- **The Cathedral of Christ the Saviour.** The largest Orthodox Christian church in Russia. Metro station “Kropotkinskaya”, the red line.
- **The Pushkin Museum of Fine Art.** A large museum of European art. The address: 12, ulitsa Volkhonka; metro “Kropotkinskaya”, opposite the Cathedral of Christ the Saviour. Open 10:00–18:00 every day except Monday.
- **The Tretyakov gallery.** A large museum of Russian art. The address: 10, Lavryshinky pereulok; metro “Tret’yakovskaya”, the orange line. Open 10:00–19:30 every day except Monday.
- **Arbat street.** A pedestrian street with lots of souvenir shops and restaurants. Metro station “Arbatskaya”, the blue or the light blue lines.
- **The observation platform on Sparrow Hills.** Sparrow Hills (“Vorob’evy gory”) is a hill on the right bank of the Moscow River. The observation platform gives a good panoramic view of the city. The main campus of Moscow State University is also located there. Metro station “Vorob’evy gory” (located at the foot of the hill), the red line.
- **Poklonnaya Hill Memorial Complex.** A park and a museum devoted to World War II. The museum is open 10:00–19:00 every day except Monday and the last Thursday of every month. Metro station “Park pobedy”, the blue line.

5. Getting to the Institute from Akademicheskaya station

The Institute is located in a 15-minutes walk from the station.



