

# A BRIEF RUSSIAN HISTORY

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YEAR	RULER	COMMENTS	
to 862	Nomadic tribes	- due to tribal feuds, tribes invite Rus princes to establish a government.	Nomads
862-879	Rurik of Novgorod	- settles in Kiev, capital of Rus. He is the first prince.	
	Various princes.	- Oleg of Kiev, Igor, Svyatoslav, Yaropolk	
980-1015	Vladimir I	- became ruler of Kiev, converts to Christianity of the Eastern Church in 988.	Rurik
1015-105	Yaroslav the Wise	- Keivan Rus has a new golden age of Byzantium.	Princes
1054 -	Various princes	- Vladimir split rule among sons resulting in petty state feuds.	
1147		- Moscow is founded by Prince Yuri Dolgorukv.	
1224	Genghis Khan	- Mongols defeat Russian states. Golden Horde domination.	
		- democratic institutions disappear, arts and industry progress stopped.	Mongols
circa 1380		- Moscow becomes ruling centre.	
1462-150	Ivan III (The Great)	- overthrows Mongols. Constantinople falls to Turks. Russian church independent	
1505-153	Vasily III	- Ivan III father.	House
1533-158	Ivan IV (The Terrible)	- Ivan III grandson, ruthless, oppressive, adopts title Tsar.	of
		- annexes portion of Siberia. Kills his first son, Ivan.	Rurik
1584-159	Fyodor	- Ivan IV second son. His death ended the House of Rurik.	
1598-160	Boris Godundov	- Fyodor's brother-in-law, period of disorder follows. Times of Troubles.	
1613-164	Michael Romanov	- peace and order restored. Times of Troubles ended.	
1645-167	Alexei	- wages war against Poland, reacquires portion of Ukraine, including Kiev.	
		- a split in the church .	
1676-168	Fyodor	- wages war against the Turks.	
1682-168	Peter I (The Great)	- shares throne with half-brother, Ivan V who was Fyodor's brother.	
1689-172	Peter I (The Great)	- took throne by coup d'etat from sister who was Regent Sofia.	
		- extensively travels western countries (incognito), westernizes Russia.	
		- wages war against Sweden, gains access to Baltic.	
		- St. Petersburg (founded in 1703) becomes new capital(1713).	
		- makes the Tsar head of the Russian Orthodox Church.	
		- puts his son Alexei in prison where he died.	
1725-172	Catherine I	- Queen in 1724, Empress in 1725.	
1727-174	2 of Peter's relatives	- Peter II (Peter I grandson), Anna (Peter I neice).	
1740-174	Ivan VI		
1741-176	Elizabeth Petrovna	- Peter's daughter.	
		- allies with Austria and defeats Frederick the Great (Prussia).	
		- does little to relieve the serfs - system still feudal.	House
1762-176	Peter III	- nephew of Elizabeth, forms an alliance with Frederick the Great.	of
		- was dethroned by his wife, Catherine.	Romanov
1762-179	Catherine II(The Great)	- westernizes Russia, reforms the government.	
		- takes part of Poland and Prussia, takes Crimea from Turks.	
1796-180	Paul I	- assassinated.	
1801-182	Alexander I	- helped defeat France (Napoleon).	
		- gains more territory to south and east.	
1825-185	Nicholas I	- Alexander's brother. Decembrists are subdued.	
		- successful wars with Persia, Turkey and Egypt.	
1855-188	Alexander II	- abolishes serfdom (1861), continued war with Turkey.	
		- assassinated.	
1881-189	Alexander III	- starts building the Trans-Siberian railroad.	
		- many repressive laws, extreme anti-semitism.	
1894-191	Nicholas II	- war with Japan, many defeats demoralizes the populace.	
		- brutal, inefficient government, unsuccessful internal revolutions in 1905.	
		- Menshevik revolution - March 12, 1917.	
1917	Alexander Kerenski	- Liberal Provisional Government formed.	
1917		- Bolsheviks revolution - November 7, 1917, Imperial family murdered in 1918.	
		- power to People's Commissars with Lenin as Chairman.	
1917-192	Lenin	- civil war 1917-20, Trotsky is Commissar for War 1917 -1925 (controls army).	
1929-195	Joseph Stalin	- Lenin dies in 1924, Trotsky expelled from Russia (1929), assassinated (1934).	Communism
		- reign of terror, Cold War starts following W.W.II.	
1957-196	Nikita Khrushchev	- rebuilds economy, crushes Hungarian revolt.	
1964-198	Leonid Brezhnev	- hard-liner, crushes Czechoslovakia's brief reform movement (1968).	
1982-198	Yuri Andropov	- ex KGB chief, new low in U.S./U.S.S.R. relations.	
1984-198	Konstantin Chernenko		
1985-199	Mikhail Gorbachev	- Glasnost, Perestroika, new openness, Soviet constitution is amended in 1990.	
1991-	Boris Yeltsin	- U.S.S.R. is dissolved in 1991.	Democracy