



Discovering Tula: Russian City of History and Innovation

Tula is located 193 km south of Moscow, and it has a population of more than 500,000 residents. The city is known for its historical significance, industry, and cultural heritage.

Exploring Tula: A Blend of Past and Present

1 — **Insight into Russian history**

Tula offers a unique insight into Russian history.

2 — **Russia's enduring spirit**

Tula embodies Russia's enduring spirit.

3 — **Rich heritage**

Tula is a city famed for its rich heritage.





A Journey Through Time: Tula's Historical Roots

1 Founded in 1146

First mentioned in the Nikon Chronicle. Originally it was a fortress on the southern borders of the Ryazan Principality.

2 Key Defensive Line

A key part of the defensive line against Tatar raids in the 16th century.

A fortified city protected the southern flank during the defence of Moscow and the subsequent counter-offensive in 1941-1942.

3 Industrial Centre

In the 18th century, Tula became a major industrial centre producing guns, rifles, and cannons.

4 Hero City

Tula was awarded the title Hero City in 1976.

Test Your Knowledge



Which coat of arms belongs to Tula?

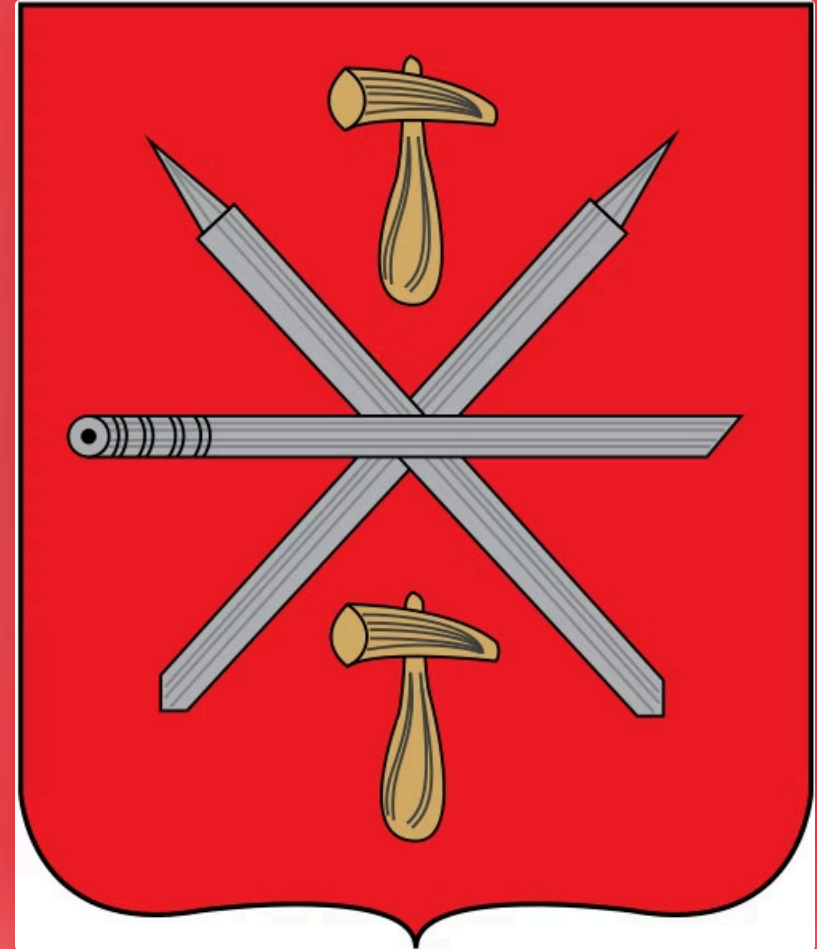
Tula's Coat of Arms



In the red field, there are two silver sword blades shaped like St. Andrew's cross and a silver gun barrel. Above and below are two gold hammers.



All of this represents the city's arms factory, its crucial role in the country's defence, and its long history as a weapons manufacturing centre.





The Arsenal of Russia: Tula's Industrial Prowess

Founded in 1712

The Imperial Tula Arms Plant was founded by Tsar Peter the Great.

Plant Museum

In 1775, Catherine the Great established the House of Rare and Exemplary Weapons.

Military Strength

It significantly contributed to Russia's military strength throughout history, especially in the Patriotic War of 1812 and the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945.

Modern Production

The plant manufactures large quantities of small weapons ammunition for both military and commercial use.

Tula's Samovars: A Symbol of Russian Hospitality



1

Renowned Production

Tula is famous for its samovar production.

2

Established in 1778

The first samovar factory in Tula was founded by brothers Ivan and Nazar Lisitsyn.

3

Integral to Tea Culture

Samovars are integral to Russian tea culture and are often family heirlooms.



Gingerbread Tales: Tula's Sweet Tradition

Printed Gingerbread

Tula Gingerbread (Pryanik) is a type of printed gingerbread, often filled with condensed milk or jam.

17th Century Origins

First mentioned in Tula chronicles in the 17th century.

Cultural Identity

An integral part of Tula's cultural identity and a popular souvenir.



Tula's Accordions: A Rich History

Early Origins (1830)

The first Russian accordion was made by I.E. Sizov in 1830.

1

2

3

4

5

Global Acclaim (1900)

Tula's accordions received international recognition, including medals at the International Exhibition in 1900.

Modern Era

Tula remains an important centre for accordion manufacture.

Accordion Capital (1874)

By 1874, Tula had become Russia's leading accordion hub, boasting 15 factories and 20 workshops.

Wartime Support (1941-1945)

During the Great Patriotic War, 60,000 instruments were sent to the front, significantly boosting soldiers' morale.



Tula's Folklore

Tula's proverbs and sayings reflect the values, experience, and worldview of the Tula people, passed down through generations.

1 Craftsmanship

“Дай туляку железо, он из него сотворит чудо.”

"Потомки славного Левши в мастерстве все хороши."

2 Hospitality & Defence

"Для друзей у Тулы - пряник, для врагов у Тулы - меч."

3 Warm Welcome

“Туляк в гости приглашает - самоваром привечает.”

4 Cultural Pride

“Гармонь наша хороша, славна как русская душа."



Cultural Gems: Museums and Landmarks



Tula Kremlin

A preserved fortress with cathedrals and historical exhibits.



Yasnaya Polyana

The estate of Leo Tolstoy, located near Tula, is now a museum.



State Museum of Weapons

Showcasing the history of Russian arms manufacturing.

State Museum of Weapons

You are considering visiting the State Museum of Weapons, and you'd like to get more information. In 1.5 minutes you are to ask four direct questions to find out about the following:



1) transport to the museum



2) excursion time



3) admission fee



4) special exhibitions

You have 20 seconds to ask each question.



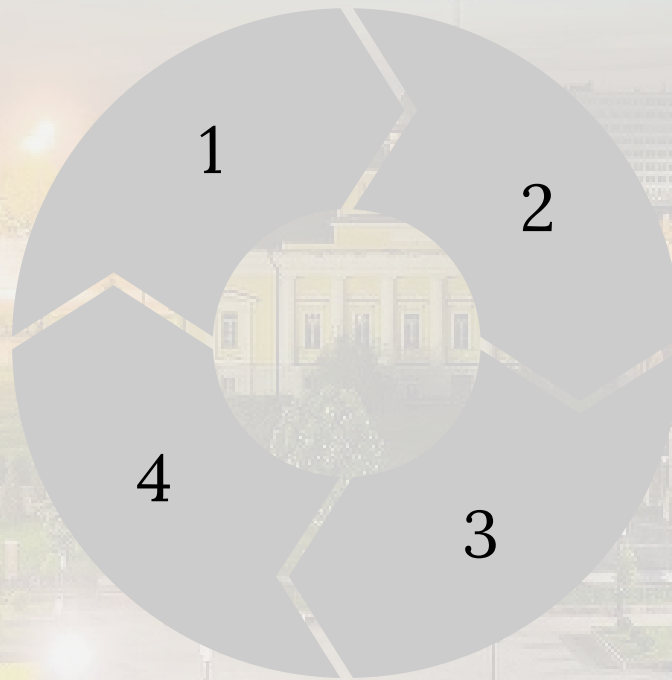
Tula Today: A Modern Russian City

Modern Industry

Engineering, metalworking,
and manufacturing.

Festivals & Events

The Tula Samovar Festival,
the Armour Festival, and the
Gingerbread Day.



Educational Hub

Home to several universities
and technical colleges.

Transport Centre

Well-connected by road and
rail to Moscow and other
major cities.

Key takeaway points: Tula's Enduring Spirit

Historical Significance: We explored Tula's profound historical contributions, from its ancient Kremlin to its pivotal role as Russia's arsenal.

Cultural Heritage: Our journey highlighted Tula's unique cultural identity, especially its iconic samovars and accordions, traditional gingerbread, and a distinct folklore tradition.

Modern Dynamism: We discovered Tula as a thriving modern city, a hub for industry, education, and transport, looking towards the future.

A Blend of Eras: Tula truly embodies Russia's enduring spirit, showcasing a compelling blend of rich past and vibrant present.

Homework: Email Writing

You have received an email message from your English-speaking pen-friend Paul:

From: Paul@mail.uk

To: Russian_friend@oge.ru

Subject: Visiting Russia

"... I've always dreamt of seeing your country, and this summer I'm planning my trip to Tula. I hope it'll be unforgettable!

... What places are worth seeing in Tula? Are there any festivals or events happening in Tula during my visit? What souvenirs or crafts should I buy in Tula? ..."

Write a message to Paul and answer his 3 questions.

Write 100–120 words.

Remember the rules of letter writing.

