

Audioscript

Listening comprehension

Listen to the text and mark the sentences 1–5 True or False

You will hear the text twice.

You have 20 seconds to look at the questions.

(Pause 20 seconds)

Now we are ready to start.

The Golden Ring is a group of ancient Russian towns and cities that form a curved line that begins and ends in Moscow. These towns and cities are an important part of Russian culture as they are places that have seen the main events of Russian history. A tour of the Golden Ring gives visitors the opportunity to learn about Russia's past, culture and traditions.

If you take the 'classical' route, these are towns and cities you would see in the order you would see them:

VLADIMIR – Vladimir was founded by Prince Vladimir Monomakh in 1108 and became the capital of North-Eastern Russia in the 12th century. It is famous for its beautiful architecture and its peaceful atmosphere.

SUZDAL – Suzdal was established in 1024 and is one of the best-preserved towns in Russia. Visitors will see building styles from different epochs and will enjoy exploring the city on foot. If you like camping, you can pitch your tent on the banks of the river Kamenka.

KOSTROMA – Founded in 1152 and located on the Volga River, Kostroma was the birthplace of the Romanov Dynasty. It is well-known for its Fire-Watch tower and the Church of the Resurrection.

YAROSLAVL – This town was founded at the beginning of the 11th century (1010) in the place where the Volga and Kotorosl rivers meet. The city has wonderful architecture and heroic past. One of the main tourist attractions of this town is the Monastery of Transfiguration of the Saviour.

ROSTOV THE GREAT – Founded in 862, this ancient Russian town is located on lake Nero. The Rostov Kremlin, the Cathedral of Assumption and the Bell Tower will impress visitors. The largest of the Rostov bells weighs 32,000 kg and the sound of its chimes can be heard for 20 km!

PERESLAVL-ZALESSKY – Established in 1152 and halfway between Moscow and Yaroslavl, on the bank of the Pleshcheevo Lake is Pereslavl-Zalessky. In 1693 Peter the Great constructed a prototype of the first Russian fleet here. Now the lake has National Park status.

SERGIEV POSAD – Founded in 862 and named after Saint Sergius who founded the largest Russian monastery, The Holy Trinity – St. Sergius Lavra. The monastery contains a huge library of religious books as well as icons and other treasures.

Now you have 20 seconds to fulfil task 1.

(Pause 20 seconds)

Now to fulfil task 2 listen to the text again and match descriptions with the places from the text.

(The recording is repeated)

Now you have 15 seconds to check your answers.

(Pause 15 seconds)

This is the end of the listening comprehension task.