



Culture

Theatre, books, holidays, and the things that need no explanation locally.

Stage and screen

теáтр	theatre	режиссёр	director
балёт	ballet	кинó	cinema
óпера	opera	фильм	film
спекта́кль	a performance	зритель	member of the audience
сцéна	stage	билёт	ticket
актёр / актри́са	actor / actress	антра́кт	interval

Books and writing

литерату́ра	literature	ромáн	novel
писа́тель	writer	расска́з	short story
поэ́т	poet	ска́зка	fairy tale
стихи́	poetry, poems	библиоте́ка	library

Traditions and holidays

культу́ра	culture	да́ча	country cottage
пра́здник	holiday, celebration	ба́ня	bathhouse
тради́ция	tradition	самова́р	samovar
обы́чай	custom	матрёшка	nesting doll
Но́вый год	New Year	блины́	pancakes
Ма́сленица	Maslenitsa (pancake week)	пода́рок	present

Saying it

Пойдём в теа́тр.
Let's go to the theatre.

Я чита́л Толсто́го.
I have read Tolstoy.

Э́то ру́сская тради́ция.
That is a Russian tradition.

С пра́здником!
Happy holiday!

С Но́вым го́дом!
Happy New Year!

New Year, not Christmas

Но́вый год is the big winter celebration — the tree, the presents, the family meal. Christmas (Рождество́) falls on 7 January under the Julian calendar and is a quieter, more religious occasion. If you wish someone anything in December, make it С Но́вым го́дом!