



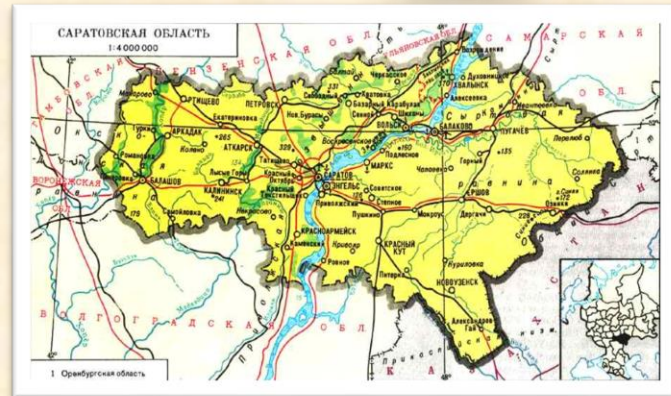
12th International VGIIK Summer School

Saratov, Saratov Region



The Saratov region is located in the southeast of the European part of Russia, in the northern part of the Lower Volga district. The territory stretches for 575 km from west to east, and for 330 km from north to south.

The region was founded on December 5, 1936 by transforming the Saratov Territory. The administrative center is the city of Saratov. It borders with the Volgograd region in the south, with the Voronezh region, in the west, with the Tambov region in the north-west, with the Penza, Samara and Ulyanovsk regions in the north, passes the state border of Russia with Kazakhstan in the east. The total length of the borders is over 3,500 km. The area of the region is 101 204 sq. km.

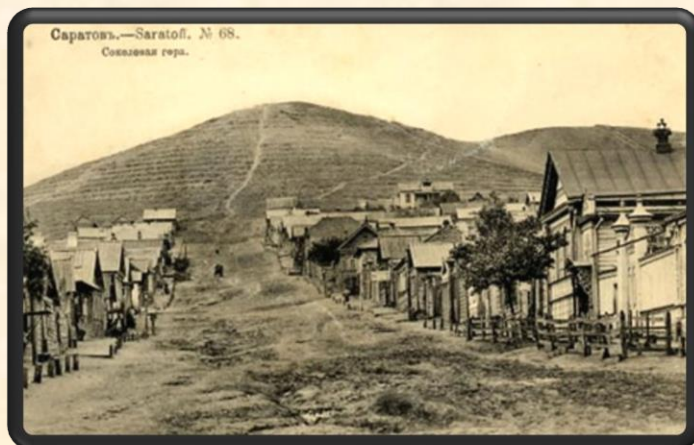


The main river - the Volga - divides the region into two parts: the eastern Trans-Volga (the Syrt plain, the northern part of the Caspian lowland) and the western (right-bank), occupied by the Volga Upland and the Oksko-Don Plain. There is a place in the Saratov region where the great river resembles a vast sea. In addition to the Volga River, the region has about 180 small rivers with the total length of 10,000 km. The region has a lot of sources of mineral water, so it is sufficiently provided with water.

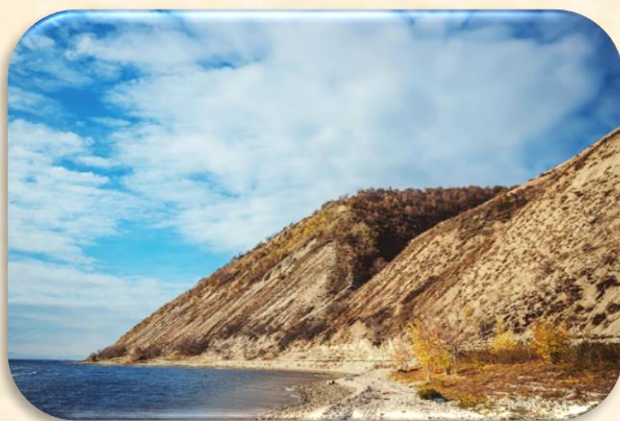


The region boasts 124 natural monuments, wildlife reserves, the Khvalynsky National Park, the only national park in the Lower Volga Region, and the Saratov and Volgograd reservoirs. The region's natural resources fascinate people with their beauty. The Volga itself, with its sandy beaches, hundreds of islands and channels, the possibility of fishing and hunting is a huge wealth of this land.

“First”, “for the first time” - these words are often used when talking about the Saratov region. Its annals, indeed, describe a lot of exceptional and unique events. The territory of the Saratov region has an ancient history, objects belonging to the Paleolithic, Neolithic, Eneolithic (Copper Age), early Slavs of the 2nd – 4th centuries were found in different parts of the region. It was at one point part of the Golden Horde. In the middle of the 13th century, prisoners driven by the Mongols from different conquered countries built Uvek, one of the first and largest cities of the Golden Horde, in the area of modern Saratov. At the end of the 14th century, the city was destroyed by Timur.



In the next 200 years, the rare population of the region was represented by the Nogai, and then by Kalmyk nomads, Cossacks and fishing cooperatives of Russian monasteries. Meanwhile, after the collapse of the Golden Horde, the Kazan Khanate was formed, which was conquered by the Russian Tsar Ivan the Terrible in 1552. On December 25, 1769, the Saratov province was created, and in 1780, the Saratov governorate was established, subsequently abolished by Emperor Paul I. The region experienced many periods of abolition and restoration, and on December 5, 1936 the Saratov region was formed with Saratov as the regional center.



Saratov region is a land with a unique individual look and rich history.

It is not deprived of unique natural sites of scientific, relict, historical, ecological and cultural significance, some of them are wildlife reserves or specially protected areas.

Saratov Region is the only area in European Russia incorporating three terrestrial ecosystems: forest-steppe, steppe and semi-desert. Its territory entails over 80 officially acknowledged natural monuments and dozens of unacknowledged or lost.

The most significant natural objects of the Saratov region are the Khvalynsky National Park, the Kumysnaya Polyana Natural Park, as well as the Dyakovsky Forest in the steppe, and the Saratov State Wildlife Reserve. You can also pay attention to the sand pit

near the village of Doktorovka, the Black Water Reserve, Snake Hills, Almazovsk Reserve, Kudeyar's Cave, etc. One of the wonders of Russia worthy of special mention is the Kurilovskaya tulip steppe and the Ivanovo field tract, specially protected natural areas where Schrenck's tulips listed in the Red Book grow. A real miracle happens every spring on an areas of 286 and 150 hectares: millions of flowers break into blossom. There is the Gagarin Field memorial complex, placed on the landing site of Yuri Gagarin's first space flight.

Artists Victor Borisov-Musatov, Kuzma Petrov-Vodkin, Pavel Yablochkov, the inventor of the "Russian light", Nobel Prize winner academician Nikolai Semyonov, composer Alfred Schnittke, writer Lev Kassil, famous stage and film actors Boris Babochkin, Evgeny Lebedev, Sergey Filippov, Oleg Tabakov, Vladimir Konkin, Evgeny Mironov could start a story about themselves with the words "I was born on Saratov land." The fates of the prominent architect Fedor Shekhtel, genetic scientist Nikolai Vavilov, artist Mikhail Vrubel, writer Mikhail Bulgakov, talented theater and film actor Oleg Yankovsky and many others are closely connected with Saratov. Yuri Gagarin studied in and graduated with honors from the Saratov Industrial College.



The city of Saratov is located in the southeast of the European part of Russia, on the right bank of the Volgograd reservoir of the Volga opposite the mouth of the Saratovka river and the city of Engels, which are located on the left bank.



It is the administrative center of the Saratov region. It is one of Russia's twenty largest cities. The population of the Saratov region exceeds 1.2 million people, the population of Saratov is about 850 thousand people.

The Volga part of the modern Zavodsky district of Saratov is called Uvek as it is placed on the spot of the Golden Horde third largest city with palaces, a mint, a water supply network. According to one historical version, Uvek was destroyed by Timur in the war with Toktamysh in 1395, according to another, the main part of the city descended into the Volga due to coastal landslides. Hopefully, the river preserves historical treasures at the bottom under a layer of silt and sand.

The construction of Saratov fortress started in the summer of 1590 under the guidance of Prince Grigory Osipovich Zasekin and boyar Fedor Mikhailovich Turov. The former was an experienced "town planner": in 1586 he built Samara, in 1589, Tsaritsyn (Volgograd).

In the early 1700s Saratov was quite a large fortress on the Volga. The city stood on the cape formed by the rivers Saratovka and Volozhka.

The city of Saratov was founded by Russian governors three times: in 1590, 1617 and 1674, and each time in a new place. The third construction of the city was organized by Colonel Alexander Shel in 1674, by decree of Tsar Alexei Mikhailovich south of the mountain on the right bank of the Volga, which is now called Mt. Sokolovaya, where the "fish town" of the Moscow Novospassky monastery stood. Sokolovaya Mountain is now a popular place from where you can see the entire city center.



Over time, Saratov developed, but throughout the 17th century the city and its environs were ruined by robbers, Kalmyks and Kuban Tatars, who did not stop attacking it until the first half of the 18th



century. In 1670, Stepan Razin subjected the city to a three-day plunder. In 1708, Saratov was sieged by Bulavin's troops. On August 6, 1774, the main forces of Yemelyan Pugachev's troops approached Saratov. The territory of the region could not be populated by settled farmers for a very long time. Only those attracted to the free life of Cossacks and the impunity of robberies on the Volga moved here.

In June 1722, Peter the Great visited Saratov on his way to Persia. Salt, manufacture, fish, and grain trade began to develop. "Brick sheds", "hemp barns", pottery plants appeared. Street names testified to the occupations of their residents: Salt street, Smith street, Brick street. The factory of the Frenchman Verdier produced satin, stockings, and taffeta.

For a long time, Saratov was the "center of attraction" of Volga Germans, thanks to the



manifesto of Catherine the Second from 1763. The early years of the 19th century saw the appearance a German suburban settlement. At the beginning of the 20th century, Volga Germans numbered about 800 thousand people. During the Great Patriotic War, many of them were resettled in Siberia or Kazakhstan (some subsequently returned). Since the 80s of the 20th century, most of them have

emigrated to Germany.

After Pugachev's raid, Saratov quickly turned from a seedy place into a rich commercial city. As Saratov grew, its center moved from the Volga bank to the southwest. By the early 1800s, the city had the Principal Public School, the printing house of the provincial government, the first serf theater, gymnasiums and many other significant buildings.



The Patriotic War of 1812 changed the life of Saratov. In 1813, the captured French were exiled here and used in public works: they leveled ravines, built dams, planted gardens. Subsequently, many of them accepted Russian citizenship and stayed in Saratov, populating the quarters of the German settlement. Some of them were hired as tutors and teachers in Russian families and educational institutions, while others opened craft shops producing footwear and furniture. In 1826, according to the project of Architect Stasov, the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral was built in honor of the victory over Napoleon's army. In 1828, Saratov Tobacco Factory, one of the first in Russia, started operating in the city. Besides, there were a rope, leather,

bell, brick and a number of other factories. The weaving mill produced the famous sarpinka, a cheap fabric originated in the German colony of Sarept. In 1885, the first public art gallery was opened in Saratov. In 1873, the first Russian national stationary circus of the Nikitin brothers, natives and residents of the Saratov province, appeared.

In 1830, 1848 and 1892, cholera epidemics erupted. The epidemic of 1830, which lasted more than a month, claimed up to 10,000 people.

From 1903 to 1906, Pyotr A. Stolypin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, was appointed the head of the Saratov Province. By the order of the City Council, Ilya Repin, a great Russian painter, created a portrait of Peter Stolypin, which is now on display at the local art gallery. You can also see the uniform of the Russia's reformer, his family album with unique photographs, and a chair from the Kiev Opera House in the Saratov Regional Museum of Local Lore.

Saratov saw the appearance of Russia's third conservatory in 1912, the tenth university in 1909, the first children's theater in 1918.

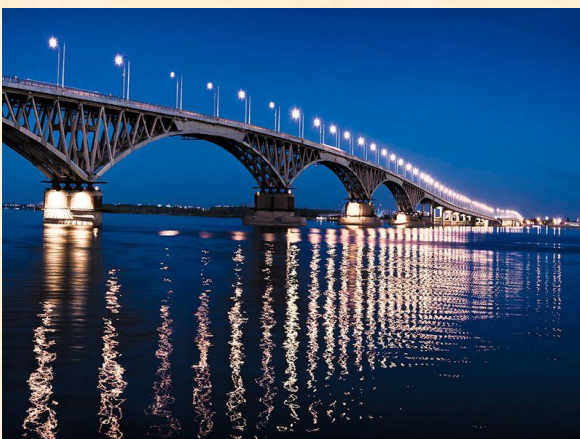
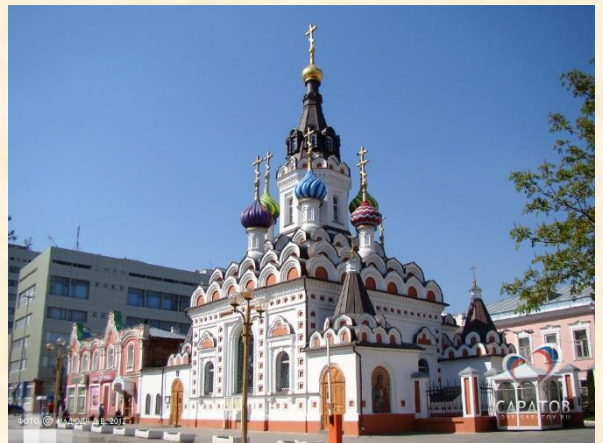


Eventually, due to the growth of the city, the Volga turned into the main transport route of Russia, which turned Saratov into a large port making it one of the first places "in terms of the beauty of buildings and the wealth of its inhabitants." Saratov was connected by rail with Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Baltic ports. In the 19th century, many industrial buildings, trading houses, factories, etc. were opened. Saratov tram system is considered one of the oldest in Russia.

Until the late 1920s, Saratov remained the largest of the Volga basin cities (bigger than Kazan, Nizhny Novgorod, Samara, etc.) and was often unofficially called the "capital of the Volga Region." The city underwent rapid development during the years of World War II, when a number of factories and military schools were evacuated here from the west of the USSR. Until 1990, Saratov was a closed city (foreigners were not allowed to visit it), since several large defense facilities worked there, in particular, the Saratov Aviation Plant, which produced military and civilian aircrafts. Many industrial enterprises of Saratov also fulfilled orders for the Soviet space program.

Saratov's architecture is diverse. The link between the past, present and future is especially acute on the Volga bank, not far from the city's founding place. Here, on Museum Square, there is the Holy Trinity Cathedral, an architectural landmark built in the late 17th - early 18th century. Near Sokolovaya Mountain, which preserves the memory of Peter I and Yemelyan Pugachev, there is an airport from which planes manufactured in Saratov fly up into the sky. At the intersection of the most important city streets, there are squares: Teatralnaya Square, Sobornaya Square and Kirov Square. Kirov Avenue is the most significant and most beautiful attraction of Saratov. It has long been home to many cultural and commercial objects.

The main attractions of the city include the Memorial Victory Park on Sokolovaya Mountain (the highest point in Saratov), with an open-air military hardware museum, "The Cranes", a monument to Saratov soldiers who perished during the Great Patriotic War, and a monument to juvenile prisoners of Nazi concentration camps. In addition, you should pay attention to the church of the icon "Assuage my Sorrows", the building of the Saratov State Conservatory, Lipki Park and, of course, ancient Uvek, the remains of a major town of the Golden Horde. Those interested in the history of the region should visit the National Village of Saratov Peoples, the Saratov Regional Museum of Local Lore with a rich exhibition, the Saratov Radishchev Art Gallery, whose collection comprises about 300 paintings. In addition, it is worth paying attention to the museum of N. G.

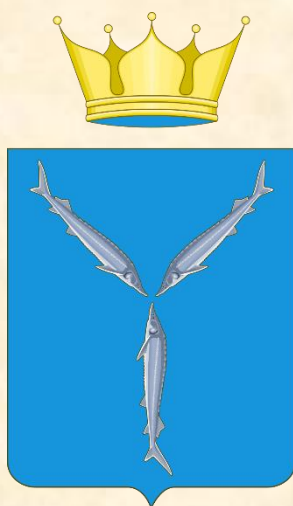


Chernyshevsky, the house-museum of V. E. Borisov-Musatov, the museum of the river fleet, the museum of glass, the museum of the Saratov harmonica and many others.

You can see a lot of sculptures in the streets. Among them is the composition "There are So Many Gold Lights", dedicated to the song and considered an unofficial city anthem, it

represents a young man with a bunch of flowers in his hands, who is waiting for his beloved under the clock. Another city symbol - the Saratov accordion - is honored with a separate monument, and now a cheerful harmonist is sitting on a bench under a street lamp. You may also like to take a walk along the Cosmonauts Embankment in the of the Stalinist Empire style, and along another important symbol of the city - the Saratov Bridge connecting Engels and Saratov. Besides, Saratov boasts real tropics in the city center: there are few places like the local Limonarium in Russia.

Saratov is a city with a unique individual look and rich historical destiny. Together with the Volga, the city is in perpetual motion: it is being built, landscaped, it is developing production, science, and culture.

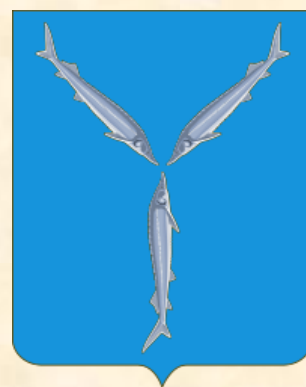


The coat of arms of the Saratov Region is its official symbol.

The region's first coat of arms was established by the Law of the Saratov Region of September 6, 1996 and looked like a heraldic azure shield on which three silver sterlets in the form of a fork-shaped cross are placed. The shield was surrounded by golden oak leaves tied with St. Andrew's (blue) ribbon.

Subsequently, the Law of the Saratov Region dated May 28, 2001 approved a new description of the coat of arms. Now it is a "French" (pentagonal) azure shield with three silver sterlets converging into a fork-shaped cross crowned with a gold crown lined with azure (with five sharp teeth visible, three of which are on the front side of the band, two on the back side). The teeth of the crown are stylized as domes of Christian churches, which personifies the rich historical past of the region since Saratov's foundation.

As the city's coat of arms became the basis for the coat of arms of the Saratov Region, it also represents a traditional heraldic shield with three silver sterlets, meaning "Great is this country's abundance of such fish." Sterlets are oriented from the upper corners of the shield and the middle of the lower edge with their heads towards the center of the composition, forming the Greek letter "upsilon", symbolizing "choosing a worthy path at the crossroads of life ways." The sterlets located in the upper part of the shield are shown with their backs to each other, and the one located in the lower part is shown with its back to the left of the viewer. The appearance of sterlets on the modern shield is associated with fishing, the main occupation of the Saratovites. The blue color of the shield symbolizes the waters of the great Volga.



Links:

<https://saratov.gov.ru/region/history/>

<https://saratov.gov.ru/region/tourism/>

<http://www.saratovmer.ru/>

http://www.saratovmer.ru/o_saratove/history/

<https://must-see.top/dostoprimechatelnosti-saratovskoj-oblasti/>

<https://tursar.ru/page-joy.php?j=2392>

<https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%A1%D0%B0%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%82%D0%BE%D0%B2#%D0%98%D1%81%D1%82%D0%BE%D1%80%D0%B8%D1%8F>

<https://top10.travel/dostoprimechatelnosti-saratova/>

<https://zagran.guru/dostoprimechatelnosti-gorodov/dostoprimechatelnosti-saratova.html#i-8>

https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%A1%D0%B0%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%82%D0%BE%D0%B2%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%B0%D1%8F_%D0%BE%D0%B1%D0%BB%D0%B0%D1%81%D1%82%D1%8C

<https://must-see.top/dostoprimechatelnosti-saratovskoj-oblasti/>

<https://geraldika.ru/symbols/86>

https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%98%D1%81%D1%82%D0%BE%D1%80%D0%B8%D1%8F_%D0%A1%D0%B0%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%82%D0%BE%D0%B2%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%B9_%D0%BE%D0%B1%D0%BB%D0%B0%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B8

https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%93%D0%B5%D1%80%D0%B1_%D0%A1%D0%B0%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%82%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%B0