



# MOVIES



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## RUSSIA THROUGH FILM

Here are some examples of how Hollywood has portrayed Russia and the Russians. For those who don't mind subtitles, we've also included a few examples of modern Russian cinema at its most powerful.

### **DOCTOR ZHIVAGO**

**DIRECTOR: DAVID LEAN (1965)**

An epic based on the great novel by Tolstoy, it stars Omar Sharif and Julie Christie. Their doomed love affair takes place during the years of the Russian Revolution and the ensuing civil war.

### **NICHOLAS AND ALEXANDRA**

**DIRECTOR: FRANKLIN J. SCHAEFFER (1971)**

This opulent epic (183 minutes) depicts the rule and ruin of the last tsar and his wife, culminating in their executions by Bolshevik revolutionaries. It was a best picture nomination in the 1971 Academy Awards.

### **MOSCOW ON THE HUDSON**

**DIRECTOR: PAUL MAZURSKY (1984)**

A romantic comedy-drama starring Robin Williams as a Soviet musician who defects to the US while shopping in Bloomingdale's department store in New York.

### **THE HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER**

**DIRECTOR: JOHN MCTIERNAN (1990)**

A box-office hit, this thriller stars Sean Connolly as the commander of a nuclear-armed Soviet submarine who suddenly steers his ship toward America. Jack Ryan (Alec Baldwin) tries to deal with the ensuing chaos. Based on a Tom Clancy novel.

### **BRIDGE OF SPIES**

**DIRECTOR: STEVEN SPIELBERG (2015)**

Based on an important event in US-Soviet relations at the height of the Cold War, Tom Hanks plays an American lawyer recruited by the CIA to negotiate an exchange of captured spies.

### **THE DEATH OF STALIN**

**DIRECTOR: ARMANDO LANNUCCI (2017)**

An outrageous black comedy. Following the dictator's sudden demise in 1953, his Kremlin colleagues (played by a stellar cast) bicker and bungle and try to seize power in a suddenly Stalin-free land.

### **FILMS IN RUSSIAN**

#### **RUSSIAN ARK**

**DIRECTOR: ALEXANDER SOKUROV (2002)**

If you're looking for something more authentically Russian, try this experimental film and arthouse favorite. Filmed in a single 96-minute take, it features an unnamed narrator as he wanders through the Winter Palace in Saint Petersburg, encountering real and fictional figures from the city's past.

#### **THE RETURN**

**DIRECTOR: ANDREY ZVYAGINTSEV (2003)**

This prize-winning drama revolves around two teenaged brothers whose father returns home after twelve years and the trouble that results.