From Uzbekistan to Moscow
Ten years ago you seemed to wait forever for a seat in the sun.

At the first hint of spring the English, umbrella under arm, grasp a picnic basket, or root under a raincoat to light a barbecue. In Russia, I was told, you had to be sure the snow would not return. If you were cautious, like business people, that meant waiting... through May... and into June, before you were sure the weather wouldn’t freeze your battens and or whip your canvas awnings.

It meant you got to sit outside for as few as three months: a poor trade off for six months of winter gloom. Yip! How things change. Now restaurants and hotels vie to open their summer perches, competing for early birds who coast in on the April thermals.

At the same time bikes-for-hire reappeared after their winter stowage. The Moscow authorities are acting on the advice of urban architects to pedestrianize streets, to make the city walkable and to reserve the Moskva’s riverbanks for people, not cars, to rest.

They must spread the wealth more widely. While they polish Park Gorkovo, some of the city’s green parks seem forgotten, along with its glorious heritage of canals and waterways. We hope this issue helps you rediscover them.

Mark Gay
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The long-running Cherry Orchard Festival, now in its 14th year, continues with some not-to-be-missed musical events. The festival actually hosts many art forms, including ballet, cinema and music. The festival takes place in various venues though the top musical events will be staged in the Moscow International House of Music. Igor Butman’s jazz orchestra is the billing on 23rd May at the Music House, where he’ll perform a fantasy based on the opera Carmen. Albina Shagimuratova will bring her magnificent soprano voice to an evening of classical vocal, on the 29th May, accompanied by the National Philharmonic Orchestra under Vladimir Spivakov.

The Ahmad Tea Music Festival will appeal to many people’s twin passions. The festival, in Arts Park Muzeon, will follow a British tradition: shamelessly creating a high-quality cultural environment, providing the best music, to be enjoyed in a refined atmosphere. To go with your tea, on 7th June, the organizers have so lined up: Elbow, called “the most intelligent group in Britain”, Hot Chip, Antony and the Johnsons, Klaxons, Alt-J, I Am Kloot, Erland and The Carnival, Fanfarlo, Citizens! and Maxïmo Park.

Creative Laboratory ARTMIND will transform Krasnaya Presnya park into a little Venice on 7th June, complete with bridges, gondolas and a carnival. The festival will not only feature Italian music, art, fashion and food. It aims to rekindle the Russian love affair with Italy that inspired much of Russia’s architecture, literature and music. It is the second annual Art Festival of Italian Culture and Positive Life Attitude — or “Amore Italia” for short.

Moscow’s International Film Festival is one of the oldest. First held in 1935, under the supervision of Sergei Eisenstein, for many years now the president of the festival has been the Russian director and actor Nikita Mikhalkov. Three cinemas host the festival — Illuzion, Oktyabr and Rolan- and the opening and closing ceremonies are held in Pushkinsky Cinema by tradition. The festival breaks down into sections and, apart from the contest, includes retrospectives, a program of Russian films, documentaries and a media forum. Moscow Annual Film Festival will be held from 19th to 28th July.
If the Chelsea Flower Show is one of the highlights of the London social calendar, the Moscow Flower Show has not yet caught up. This will be just the third Moscow International Festival of Gardens and Flowers but it already attracts professional landscape designers, gardeners and architects from the UK, France, Italy and Japan. It will be held in Park Gorkovo, a.k.a. Park Kultury, in the week of 6th to 13th July. Few Moscow-dwellers have a garden but some may find inspiration for their dacha.

Life Before The First World War

A history festival will mark the centenary of the outbreak of World War One as 2,000 members of re-enactment societies depict military and everyday life, on June 7th and 8th.

Different venues at Kolomenskoye Park will represent aristocratic, proletarian and village life. Before WWI, more than 95 per cent of Russians were peasants but the country was industrializing quickly. The exhibition will feature the great inventions of the time: electricity, the telegraph, the motor car and the silent cinema.

The village venue will show harvesting, taverns, village music and entertainment. The military display will include different camps representing the countries that went to war. There will be a hospital and a display of field guns, armored cars and combat aircraft. Guard duty, camp cooking and detention will reflect the daily life of soldiers.

The two-day festival opens on June 7th at noon, at the Moscow State Integrated Museum-Reserve, with a parade of troops, a mock gas attack and a horse parade. The evening of the first day will conclude with a reenactment of Brusilov’s breakthrough.

There will be period food available — an aristocratic restaurant, a workers’ canteen, a village tavern — and a vegetarian café.

Hanging Out In All The Colors Of The Rainbow

Body painting and music come together in the ColorFest. The first “bright music festival” attracted 7,000 people in 2013 and the organizers aim to surpass that this year, on 13th July at VVTs, formerly VDNKh. Based on the Hindu spring festival of Holi, it shares traditions with other carnivals and saturnalia.

The selling point is spices, bright and easily washable, with which people paint themselves — to the tune of three tons. With live music and dancing, the show offers a prize for not looking like anyone else.
If you think you know Moscow like the back of your hand, think again. Several famous streets have been pedestrianized and while it’s great to lose the cars, you might at first feel lost without them.

Walking up Kuznetsky Most to Kamergersky Peryulok feels like you’re in a different city. There do seem to be more luxury boutiques and fewer bookshops, the collateral damage of glamorization. Cafés are still plentiful, though, and pavements tap and clatter to the construction of summer verandas. With newly-pedestrianized Bolshaya Dmitrovka, running north, and Nikolskaya Ulitsa, southwest, you can genuinely enjoy exploring the very center of Moscow.

What better excuse for a short break without the travel? Many of the best hotels offer special rates for a couple of nights and offer a unique opportunity to see Moscow in a different light.

You can experience the history of Moscow without leaving your hotel — and that is what makes the Hilton Leningradskaya unique. Not only is it a restored, 1950s skyscraper, but it is the only hotel to have faithfully retained all the original details of its majestic rooms.

Want to celebrate your wedding the second time around? The Hilton Leningradskaya’s wedding package is available for anniversaries, too! It’s not only an excellent excuse for a hotel break but it provides a chance to stay in a corner site, which has a separate sitting area with sofa and armchairs, as well as a bedroom with a king-sized bed. If you don’t have to rush out anywhere, you can use the executive lounge.
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throughout the day and leave your car in
the secure parking — all as part of the
wedding package. Check out is as late
as 6 pm.

Wedding guests are invited back to
a complementary First Anniversary din-
er. The package costs 15,000 rubles plus
sales tax.

For those with marriage in mind, but who
have not yet proposed, the Ritz Carlton
offers the Perfect Proposal Package. It
begins with your collection in a Bentley
Mulanne limousine. The room is one
of the Carlton suites with 129 square
meters of floorspace. Another one-
night package is the Moscow You Will
Remember, including a traditional wel-
come and champagne ceremony in the
rooftop lounge overlooking the Kremlin.
Or there the Romance Package with a
Rose petal turndown. If you celebrate
your first anniversary in the same hotel
you’ll receive an upgrade.

Walkers or the romantic can find a
reasonably-priced break at the Crowne
Plaza Moscow WTC hotel. Its Romantic
package offers a Club room with pan-
oramic views, access to the club lounge
and fitness center and check out as late
as 6pm (check in can also be adjusted
to as early as 8am, with complimentary
secure parking). A bottle of sparkling
wine is included and there’s also the
chance of an upgrade by one room level.
When you book the Romantic pack-
age again, the upgrade stretches to two
classes of room. The romantic pack-
age starts from 7,000 rubles excluding
sales tax. Walkers should not be misled
by the hotel’s business district location.
Krasnogvardejskiy ponds, part of the
cascade on the former Gagarin manor, is
a great place from which to start explor-
ing Presnensky district.

If your Moscow home lacks outside
space, what about staying in a suite
that has 272 square meters of terrace
and indoor luxury? Swissôtel Krasnye
Holmy Moscow has 28 luxury suites, the
finest of which is the recently opened
Penthouse Suite. It is designed around
a large multi-functional living room that
includes a dining area for 10 guests —
served from its own kitchen. Once your
guests leave, you can retire to a spacious
bedroom with sauna, Whirlpool bath
and separate shower. The Penthouse
occupies the 19th floor.

The Radisson Royal Hotel Moscow,
or by its familiar name the Hotel Ukraine,
is another of the restored “Seven Sisters”
which was more extensively modern-
ized when the public areas were opened
up and faced with marbles and granite
from around the world. It still boasts a
collection of socialist realist paintings
and sculptures and its Moscow Diorama
created in 1977.

Its riverbend location is one of its
main assets. It is also well positioned
for walking Kutuzovsky Prospect and
Naberezhnaya Tarasa Shevchenko where
you can find nightclubs like Krisha Mira.

The hotel has a wide range of rooms
from 24 square meter classic rooms to
85-square meter grand executive and
wedding suites. larger apart-hotel rooms
above the 22nd floor.
Time For Terraces

BY MARK GAY

THERE'S GREAT VARIETY AMONG MOSCOW'S TERRACE SCENE, FROM HISTORIC BOATS, TO 19TH CENTURY MOORISH ARCHITECTURE, TO PERCHING ON TOP OF A 1950S SKYSCRAPER. IT PROVES THERE'S MORE TO DESIGN THAN STEEL AND GLASS. TAKE YOUR PICK.

PORTAL TO THE EAST

Vasanta café is situated at Neglinnaya street 14, in a unique building that boasts a patio between two stunning arches in Moorish or eastern baroque style. Surrounded by sculptures and draped with plants, is the summer terrace Vasanta, a café that operates only for the season. It is also one of the places you can find Indian cuisine, which deserves to be more popular in Moscow. Space is limited and it's well worth adjusting your schedule to try to get a seat.

The chef was once former U.S. president Bill Clinton’s personal chef, so don’t be shy about exploring the menu.

HONOR ROLL

Seiji deserves a mention for its small, solidly built wood terrace that matches the restaurant’s warm interior. It is simply one of the best Japanese restaurants you will find anywhere. There is night and...
day between the soggy sushi that passes for cuisine at most Moscow eateries and the varied, fresh, invigorating menu at Seiji. Rest your legs outdoors, just a short walk from Park Kultury metro station at Komsomolsky prospect 5/2. Seiji is celebrating its 10th anniversary with a special menu.

OLIVE BEACH

Part terrace, part wooden sunbed on the edge of Gorky Park, Olive Beach must qualify as one of the best places in Moscow to watch the river go by. It serves late brunches and snacks from a café managed by Ginza Project. The terrace, created by architectural design bureau Wowhaus, is named after its potted olive trees, sports sun loungers and enough space to accommodate 300 people.

VIEW FROM THE DECK

Lastochka is one of the few Moscow restaurant ships worth your time. Moored on Luzhnetskaya embankment near the Druzhba sports hall and a walk from Vorobyeyev Gory metro stop, it is said to be an original Moscow river cruise boat from before the revolution.

Mediterranean dishes combine perfectly with the views of the river and hills beyond.

SITTING ON THE DOCK

Sitting of the dock of, well not the bay but Chistye Prudi becomes a whole lot more relaxing at the restaurant Shater.

A popular spot for ice skating in the winter, in the summer the wooden restaurant takes on the feeling of a wharf on the edge of the water.

Inside there are soft cushions, handmade rugs, glass beads and organza curtains. The menu has European and Japanese sections.

FUTURIST MIXOLOGY

Time Out Bar veranda is perched at the top of one of Moscow’s architectural gems, the Pekin Hotel, Bolshaya Sadovaya 3. It’s on Triumphalnaya Square, and was built in 1955 by Dimity Chechulin. It’s a dedicated cocktail bar — and the mixologists are not the bland replicants you’ll find in some well-known chains. They range from pick-me-ups to futurist inventions; appropriate to a hotel that stands a stone’s throw from the statue of Vladimir Mayakovsky.

URBAN CAFÉ

Cafés are urban by definition but we’ll let that pass. Barbara Bar is a highlight of the Mayakovskaya area and worth knowing even if you don’t work in the area. Food and drink are in harmony with each other, according to the ethos of the place. Even the cocktails are matched to the season, using berries, flowers, spices and herbs. The summer terrace forsakes steel and glass for softwood and colorful cushions.

THE SOURCE

Manon is the place for many who live or work by ulitsa 1905 goda. With its loft and huge windows the restaurant has an airy feel. But there’s still the there’s the terrace with its river view. If you haven’t visited in recent years, you’ll find a new menu, which gets updated regularly. It’s part of Maison Dellos, which runs Café-Pushkin.
Pick Of The Clubs

Muscovite vs. Expat

WE ASKED TWO MOSCOW RESIDENTS TO REVEAL THEIR FAVORITE NIGHT SPOTS. NATIVE MUSCOVITE ANASTASIA GARIB WORKS IN THE REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE OF AN INTERNATIONAL HOLDING COMPANY. OUR SECOND EXPERT IS BRITISH EXPAT AND MOSCOW TIMES JOURNALIST, JENNIFER MONAGHAN.

ANASTASIA’S RECOMMENDATIONS

STRELKA BAR

This is a bar on the roof of the Strelka-Institute, the avant-garde of urban architecture and social design in the capital. The main attraction of the bar is its open veranda overlooking the Christ The Saviour Church across the river. During the day-time the bar offers pleasant brunches and at night it turns into a meeting point of the art crowd from the Strelka Institute below, who come to wash down their impressions of the latest Strelka event with a refreshing cocktail and listen to some live music. The entrance is free of charge. The audience is various — from hipsters to expats. The Strelka Institute of Architecture and Design event even has a cinema in an open courtyard that hosts film festivals. And since films can finish late, it helps to have several nightclubs on the doorstep. The average bill is RUB 1300-2000 per person including alcohol.

ICON CLUB

If you knew the old “RAI” club, this is its reincarnation: a place for the wealthy and vain, coming to show themselves and find a girlfriend for the night. Hence the strict face control in response to the degree of glam-ness and exclusivity of the events which entertain the selected audience. Be prepared to pay at least RUB 1000 for one cocktail, and satisfy your stomach in advance.

REKA RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

Another place with summer veranda. But unfortunately that’s where the advantages end. The food is very expensive even by Moscow standards and yet inedible. You can dance there if you are really keen, but the place is not for real clubbing or meeting people. The average bill is RUB 3000 and up.

GOGOL

A cozy venue so popular with expats that you may forget you’re in Russia. Gogol is a cafe-cum-club that comprises of three main rooms: a dance-floor, a general chummery area and a small restaurant around the back. Varied music includes live performances.

SOLYANKA

Feels like someone has thrown their mansion open for a party. The club is primarily located inside, though there is also a covered bar outside. Dance music, in all its carousing, and at night it turns into a meeting place for the stylish, and at midnight, a general expat laundry. It draws a young, hip crowd. Colorful cocktails will make you get out on the dance floor.

CHATEAU DE FANTOMAS

This is probably the most private and thus the most exclusive club of the modern Moscow. It is run by the R-Girl Snezhana Georgieva and Ovanes Pogosyan, the co-owner of the also-famous Belka Bar. It is absolutely impossible to get in without a membership card, which is distributed only among the party animals of clubbing Moscow. But once you are in you will be witness to exclusive fashion shows, new movie releases and celebrity birthday parties. A separate entertainment is to watch the barmen in a white medical gowns preparing unique cocktails.

GYPSEY BAR

This is a club with a long history and much loved by totally different crowds, and thus normally full by midnight, despite its rather large hall. You can meet students and middle aged people, Russians and expats, hipsters and glam, all enjoying overall casual atmosphere. Nonetheless, be prepared to go through face control before being allowed to get in. The club holds different parties, plays live jazz on Thursdays, and provides relaxing comfort of a water pipe corners for those for those who want to sit back and groove, and has a summer veranda. To top it all, if you are on the lookout for a dining place in daylight hours, you can find something to eat here, too. The average bill is RUB 1500-2000 per person including alcohol.

JENNIFER’S RECOMMENDATIONS

GHUZKHA

Not a club, but makes the list as one of the best places to pre-drink if you’re on a budget. Cheap beer is a mainstay at Khruzkha, which has a good atmosphere when busy. Bars are located all over the city.

STRELKA

This is another vote for Strelka from an expat’s perspective. If you’ve recently come into some money, or are feeling a bit flush, this is one of the best places in Moscow. It’s a very central location and for tourists the view of the cathedral is unmissable. The Strelka Institute and surrounding galleries of the Red October factory add some cultural opportunities. The club attracts some great DJs with the music adding to, rather than monopolizing, the atmosphere. Drinks are expensive.

MASTERSKAYA

Good for those wanting a more laid-back night out where dancing doesn’t feature heavily on the agenda. A club-cum-theatre, Masterskaya has a bohemian feel with live music performances held most evenings. The staff is friendly, as is the resident cat.

ENTUZIAST

Small bar, with a small drinks menu, but always good for a chilled night out. Café-cum-bar-cum-motorcycle repair shop, Entuziast draws a young, hip crowd. Colorful helmets and motorcycles contribute to the funky décor.
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Russia’s wine industry is in a period of rebirth as tastes adapt to less sweet, modern styles. Ripe, balanced, red wines sit alongside quality sparkling wines on Moscow supermarket shelves. Their brand names are a calling card for Russia’s sunny south, even for those who drink little wine.

Every Russian over 20 that I know has visited Abrau-Durso at least once, says a friend. People look for an alternative to a wedding meal at a conventional restaurant and wineries like Abrau-Durso cater to all interests: corporate parties, spas, mountain tours and, let’s not forget, wine tasting. Some wineries have visitor centers but others offer tours only by appointment so check in advance.

No winery can survive on visitors alone, and the business is growing because Russian consumers are turning in growing numbers to drier styles of wine made for consuming with food. Sales of locally produced wine benefitted from the interruption of supplies from Georgia. Though trade is now restored, Georgian wine has not recovered its former prominence and some well-known Georgian grape varieties, such as saperavi, grow happily on Russian hills.

Producers say the climate in the hills around Anapa next to the Black Sea mimics that of Bordeaux, though with less rainfall, while the soil is close to that of the Rhone valley. The foothills of the mountains have a poor, pebbly, limestone soil perfectly suitable for cultivation of high-quality grape varieties.

The small private domaine Gai-Kodzor Vineyards is located near the town of Anapa. It grows 14 varieties on an area of 70 hectares. These include roussanne, viognier, muscat, syrah, grenache and pinot noir on the southern slopes of the Caucasus Mountains at an altitude of 350 meters.

Co-owner of Gai-Kodzor Edouard Aleksandrov sourced the vine cuttings from one of the best nurseries in France, which supplies the plants for many prominent French vineyards. Even though it is more expensive than buying the plants from other countries, you receive what you order, “clean” planting material, appropriately handled and without diseases, he said.

Gai-Kodzor produces wines for restaurants and the retail sector. The supply is limited to 5,000 to 10,000 bottles of each variety. “Even such small quantities require enormous effort from us because, in past years, Russian winemaking had so badly spoilt its reputation with cheap surrogates. We have to break the stereotypes and rebuild a positive image,” Aleksandrov said.

The biggest problem is marketing. “We produce elegant, expressive wines, but their Russian origin has hindered their promotion. If we don’t tell people it is a Russian wine, we get excellent
reviews. In blind tastings we get high praise for our wines and people are surprised to find out they are from Russia.” Prejudice is another problem. Moscow customers are the most difficult: “spoilt and pretentious”, in Aleksandrov’s words. The easiest region to sell to is Krasnodarsky krai “where people love wines and can distinguish and appreciate good products”. Siberia and the Far East are also good markets.

Wine tourism can help overcome the problem of marketing. Visitor centers can help people become more knowledgeable about wine and give them the information to help them choose what they like. A visit to Gai-Kodzor must be arranged in advance. “One of the main conditions is my presence in Anapa because I prefer to show people round and tell them about the business myself,” Aleksandrov said. There are no guides or tasting rooms “but people are really excited, because you put your life into work, and everyone feels it.”

The roots of Russia’s wine region are lost in early history. Perhaps the Greeks first grew wine in their outpost of Gelendzhik, and later ventured north of Novorossiysk. But the communists uprooted a history of wine making as food production collapsed and vines were abandoned. In the late 1930s sparkling wine was reintroduced, made from aligoté — favored for its crisp acidity — though often masked with sugar. Prince Lev Golitsyn’s former winery Abrau-Durso, built in 1891, was reconstructed, the work finishing in 1953.

Today Abrau-Durso is one of the best-known destinations for Russian domestic tourists and wine lovers alike. Three million people visited the settlement of Abrau-Durso in 2013, according to figures from the regional government of Krasnodarsky krai. It also hosts the annual Art-Abrau festival. There are two hotels in Abrau-Durso, including the 4-star boutique hotel Imperial, three restaurants and four specialized shops. An Abrau-Durso spokeswoman said they were currently working on a new tourist route to the Divnomorskoe Mansion House near Gelendzhik where the brand’s premium still wines are produced from cabernet sauvignon, chardonnay and riesling.

The winery itself welcomed more than 130 thousand visitors in 2013, a record year. It can run eight tasting rooms at the same time. In April it marked the first anniversary of its sparkling wine spa, which attracted 1600 clients in the first year. Wine therapy and beauty services have proven to be a dynamic segment. “I wish there were more such places,” Abrau-Durso chairman Pavel Titov said last year.

Most visitors want excursions, an Abrau-Durso Group spokeswoman explained. Unlike visitors to European wineries who want to taste wine and buy the ones they like, Russian visitors tend to favor the educational part of the program, to learn about wine production, to visit the museum and learn about the winery’s history. “Many tourists choose tours without tastings, which is not often seen in Europe,” she said.

The Abrau-Durso group, which floated on the stock market in 2012, has a Centre for Wine Tourism, which works with travel agencies and corporate clients. For individuals, there are special gastronomy or spa tour offerings.

Château Le Grand Vostock has welcomed tourists since 2004. Visitors can taste wines made from pinot franc, cabernet sauvignon and regional varieties like golubok, saperavi and krasnostop; and pinot blank, aligoté and rkatitsieli on the white side. It has a reasonably priced, small hotel and offers other activities like tennis, billiards and hunting, fishing and horse riding.

More wineries have entered the wine tourism market over the past three years. Estates like Lefkadia, Fanagoria, Myskhako, and Milstrim are now attracting tourists; even garage wineries welcome small groups.

Visitors of a less hardy and vigorous constitution should take a tip from wine-growers: The summer heat means vines grow and reach maturity more quickly in Anapa than in Bordeaux, flowering in May and ready for harvest in September. It can get so hot in summer that the vines can shut down to conserve water.
The Flying Banana company will stage a mini-festival of children’s theatre at the end of May. The audience gets to participate in the performance — pillow fighting, catching bubbles, ‘snow’ or popcorn and, of course, singing (and shouting) along.

The May festival, on the 24th and 25th, features the plays “Nursery Rhymes”, “Gruffalo” and “We’re Going On A Bear Hunt”, based on well-known children’s stories. These plays are just part of a repertoire which also includes dragons, forgetful cats and tigers who come to tea and refuse to leave.

Performances are interactive, so the group usually limits the audience to about 50 people to keep the atmosphere friendly and cozy. As well as a great soundtrack of live and recorded music, another highlight is the constantly changing scenery, created by sand artist Lilya Chistina on a projection screen.

The English-language performances suit Russian children or native-speakers, who get a chance to see theatre in their own tongue. The May festival will take place at Hermitage Gardens and at JCC, 47/3 Bolshaya Nikitskaya. Details are posted on Facebook/Flying Banana Children’s Theatre Group.

There will be a further concert of favourite nursery rhymes on the 15th June and a rollicking pirate show on June 29th.
The range of music is impressive: Russian banjo, duos of flute and harp, violin and guitar, jazz trios up to and including chamber orchestras. Pieces of music are not long and the events last no more than an hour.

It’s an intimate yet lively program of music for families, with live gigs every Saturday and Sunday throughout June and August. Events are held in different places but these are easy to find thanks to an impressive website which lets you search their schedule by location as well as date.

Science Summer Camp

Schoolchildren from different regions of Russia have the chance to carry out research projects at a summer camp for want-to-be scientists. The catch is, they have to complete their express project in just five days.

Fifty schoolchildren, aged 14 to 17, will work in international teams, using the English as a common language. Once they complete their projects in the fields of science and technology, they present them to a committee of experts and other participants in the International Research School (IRS).

The original design of the projects is developed by tutors — young scientists from Russia and other countries — using modern methods of research. The IRS offers its participants interesting scientific and cultural programs.

They also have lectures on topical subjects, communication and team-building exercises, sports activities and tours to the Kremlin, Lomonosov Moscow State University, and other places of cultural and historic value. Delegation leaders can take a special workshop on psychology and teaching methods.

The project was developed by the All-Russian Movement of Creative Teachers, The Moscow State Center for Youth and Moscow State Pedagogical University. It is sponsored by the International Movement for Leisure Activities in Science & Technology (MILSET) Moscow Department of Education.

The fee is 500 euros and details are available from MILSET.

Dance And Play, Bilingually

Baby Bilingual Club is more than a language class, giving parents the chance to share their experiences with the English language and to discuss issues like running a bilingual home.

It holds classes in the Hermitage Garden, at prospect Vernatskogo and in Krylatskoye aimed at children aged two to seven years old. It also holds drama in English classes for older children, from seven to 15. The organizers favor immersion classes in which children use all their senses. Instead of sitting at a desk they take part in activities like board games, dancing, singing, crafts and, of course, reading.

Classes are small and last one hour. The club has an active web site on which parents discuss their experiences — including teaching reluctant relatives to speak English, discussing the merits of different English-language cartoons, and teaching methods, from phonics to sight words. You can find Baby Bilingual Club on Wordpress or Facebook.

LOGOS FAMILY GROUP
27, Yamskogo polya 5-th street, Moscow
Tel.: +7 (495) 612-7802
dc-logos.ru; facebook.com/DC.LOGOS
The Children’s Center “LOGOS” offers professional assistance to parents in education, development and training of preschool and younger school age children. “Art People Project” provides oil painting and watercolor painting lessons, drawing and graphic classes and it also offers interesting master classes by professional artists and designers.

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The fee is 500 euros and details are available from MILSET.
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