Some Simple Russian Words

Knowing even a handful of Russian words can transform your experience in Russia, and allow you to make a much more positive impression on people you meet. Here is a list of (in our opinion) the most essential words for simple social interactions, and then some more helpful words that you might also like to learn.

Every Russian word has one syllable that is strongly stressed. All the other syllables are not so strongly spoken. We show in capital letters which is the stressed syllable. Note that we are trying to convert the Russian letters and sounds into familiar English letters and sounds, so these are approximations of the actual Russian words, but if you speak them slowly and clearly, you'll be understood, and as you hear Russian people use the same common words, you can adjust and correct your own pronounciation as needs be.

The Six Most Important Words to Know

Здравствуйте Hello **ZDRASTvuytye** Goodbye da sviDANiya До свидания Пожалуйста Please paZHALusta Спасибо Thankyou spaSlba Да Yes Da Нет No Nyet

Ten More Useful Words

Я хочу I want ya haCHOO

Это This/that eta Сколька How much? SKOLka

ОдинOneaDIN (you'll also hear "adna" used sometimes)ДваTwodva (you'll also hear "dve" used sometimes)

Три Three tri

ИзвинитеExcuse MeizviNItyeХорошоFine/GoodharaSHOГдеWhere isgdye

Где Туалет (the toilet) gdye tuaLYET

Words to Fill the Page With (not essential but maybe useful) ©

Я (не) Понимаю I do (not) understand ya (nye) paniMAyu

Water vaDA Вода Plva Пиво Beer Fruit juice Сок sok Счёт Bill or total schyot It doesn't matter nichiVO Ничего Больше More **BOLshe** Помогите Help pamaGltye Очень Приятно Pleased to meet you Ochin priYATna

Гостиница Hotel gaSTInitsa