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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

City Museums Go Free to Mark Heritage Day

By The Moscow Times

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Muscovites can visit all of the city museums for free as the city celebrates Historical and Cultural Heritage Day on Sunday.

The Darwin Museum, the Gulag Museum, the Archaeological Museum and the Museum of Cosmonautics are just four of the dozens that will throw open their doors to the public. The event is not limited to museums with hundreds of events — the program is a daunting 38 pages long — taking place, including guided tours in museums and around town. Historical Moscow theaters, libraries and more than a dozen foreign embassies will also open their doors to the public and special events will take place in most parks.

The city also offers a guide to the day that you can download to your phone and is running a historical adventure quest.

The day is one of two such celebrations every year. The next — and because of the better weather, more popular — day of historical and cultural heritage is May 16, when Museum

Night takes place. The first is linked to International Day for Monuments and Sites on April 18 and the second to International Museum Day on May 19.

Museums taking part in the day will work 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and many of the events require registration. The event's website has all the details but is only in Russian.

Free entry does not work with the Tretyakov Gallery, the Historical Museum or the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, as they are federal rather than city museums.

Check www.dninasledia.ru *for more details. Telephone hotline 495-988-2676.*

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