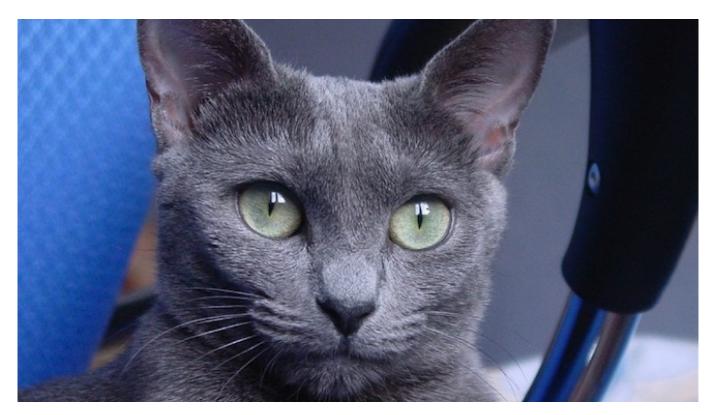


Cats, Matryoshkas and Ushankas: Most Popular Russia-Related Searches

By The Moscow Times

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The Russian blue cat has taken first place on the list of Google's most popular Russia-related requests, the company announced Tuesday.

The cuddly household pet was followed by the *matryoshka* doll and the *ushanka*, the traditional Russian hat with ear flaps, in second and third place, analyst Aram Asatryan said during the Google Think Performance conference, the TASS news agency reported.

Russian women are of particular interest to French, Spanish and Japanese users, the statistic revealed. Russian men were less sought after amongst those seeking love, featuring in a mere 6 percent of requests from lonely hearts. British people were the only users to search for "Russian brides" rather than "Russian women," Asatryan said.

British users also regularly searched for the "Russian bridal ring," designed by Cartier luxury jewelry brand.

Black caviar, mayonnaise and *pastila* — the Russian version of marshmallow — were the most commonly searched for Russian foods, statistics showed.

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