

# Popular Expat Haunt Starlite Diner Catches Fire in Central Moscow

September 27, 2017



Stephen Lock / Twitter

An American-style diner popular with expats caught fire in central Moscow, the local Emergency Situations Ministry branch [said](#) early Wednesday.

Styled after 1950s American diners that serve burgers and milkshakes, the Starlite Diner was [founded](#) in 1995 and became a regular hangout for expats. It opened three more locations in Moscow.

The Emergency Situations Ministry said it received a fire alert at the diner's address shortly after midnight and put out the flames within an hour.

The flames engulfed furniture and equipment, spreading across an area of 150 square meters, it said. The ministry added that there were no casualties.

A number of Moscow expats and observers took to Twitter to lament the "end of an era."

**Embed:**

!! Wow, the original Starlite Diner has burned down. End of an era. (Its era ended some time ago, in fairness, but still). <https://t.co/v8IxnG595k>

— Shaun Walker (@shaunwalker7) [September 27, 2017](#)

**Embed:**

Farewell Starlite Diner. Hopefully Life magazine cover survived and photo of Brad Pitt and G Paltrow at diner <https://t.co/ZIPkk7PyNK>  
[pic.twitter.com/LWBnWZmCrB](https://t.co/ZIPkk7PyNK)

— Kevin O'Flynn (@oflynnkevin) [September 27, 2017](#)

**Embed:**

RIP original US Starlite diner opened in Moscow in 1990s, had waitresses in v. short skirts, formica and colourful expat/ Russian clientele  
<https://t.co/bMY6pXeBkP>

— Anna Malpas (@malpasanna) [September 27, 2017](#)

**Embed:**

Starlite is always open ... I won't believe it until I see it myself!  
<https://t.co/ZnzOPMqWZn>

— Alec Luhn (@ASLuhn) [September 27, 2017](#)

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<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2017/09/27/popular-expat-haunt-catches-fire-in-central-moscow-a59088>