

Ladomir, Zlatozara and Agrafena: How Muscovites Named Their Babies in 2017

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Moscow city officials have published a list of unusual names given to babies born in the capital last year.

Many boys received traditional Slavic names including Velesvet, Ladomir, Patrikei and Kharlampy. Other unusual names included Forward, Nord and Franklin, and one Muscovite was named Orpheus, after the Greek hero.

The most unorthodox girls' names included Zlatozara, Ladislava, Agrafena and Iskra.

"When choosing a name, parents usually go for something beautiful and rare, not the latest trend," Irina Muravyova, the head of Moscow's registry services, was [cited](#) as saying in a press release published Thursday.

Over 130,000 babies were born in Moscow in 2017, including 1838 pairs of twins and 34 sets of triplets. As in 2016, the [most popular](#) names continue to be Alexander and Mikhail for boys

and Sofia and Maria for girls.

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In April 2017, the State Duma passed a [law](#) prohibiting parents from giving their offspring "excessively original" names, such as one couple's attempt to call their son "BOCh rVF 260602" — an acronym denoting, "Biological Human Object of the Voronin-Frolova Genus, Born on June 26, 2002."

Other unusual names in recent years have included Stalin, Putin, Crimea and Syria. Luckily, an [attempt](#) by a Crimean politician to encourage parents to call their newborns Generator to protest persistent power outages on the annexed peninsula was ignored.

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