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What Did Russia Look Like in 2016?

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The start of 2026 has brought with it the chilling realization that it's already been a full decade since 2016 — sparking a viral trend in which people post photos of themselves from that year. In the Russia of 2016, artists like Red Hot Chili Peppers, Imagine Dragons and Lana Del Rey could be seen on stage, a Ukrainian actor and comedian named Volodymyr Zelensky was starring in films screened in Russia, Alexei Navalny was making waves in national politics and the country was gearing up for the 2018 FIFA World Cup. Following Instagram's lead, here are some images of Russia as it was a decade ago.



Michael Sohn / AP / TASS

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