

ever seen, we reached our hotel and checked in. The hotel is a rather unassuming 3 star just outside Moscow. We had a brief meet with our Russian rep and were shown how to navigate the metro should we wish to brave it without her expert guidance which we were scheduled to have the following morning. We were feeling brave so off we went.

The metro is a wonder to behold, if only London underground could run the same. A train arrives every 90 seconds, well we actually timed it more like 2 mins but non the less always there to take you on your way. Each station is decorated differently, some are rubbish and some are pretty cool but reagrdless what they look like the trains are super efficient. So we made it into Moscow centre armed with a map with pictures and everything. After walking about half a mile it was made aware to me (Graeme) by 2 south africans that i was actually holding the map upsidedown, doh! After righting the map and turning ourselves around we made a bee line to the Kremlin (strangely Bee Line is the name for the main phone network here,

#useful fact 1). The shops and cars we passed were amazing, Cartier, Ferrari, Georgio Armani to name a few oh and there were a few quality old Ladas kicking about. We kept walking until we arrived in the famous Red Square.

Red Square was huge. It has Lenins Morseleum, St Basils Cathedral and the historical museum, oh and loads of chinese tourists. Time was getting on so we thought it best to head back to our hotel for some much needed sleep as we had to be up early for an organised mornings trip around the city.

Up early, breakfast. We met our guide and another girl, suzanne from Northern Ireland, who was doing the same trip as us, it seemed we were the only ones. So off we went for our guided tour, heading into town like we had done the night before. We were shown parts of the old town and it was explained that some of the buildings had previously been picked up and moved, some as much as 50metres, all by hand!! I guess this is a result of slave labour. Thankfully we were not asked to join in one of these building moving ganga and we