

Yelets is a city in Lipetsk Oblast, Russia, situated on the Bystraya Sosna River. It was mentioned in historical documents as early as 1146 or 1147, when it was just a fort. The town's position at the very south of Russian lands made it easy for Turkic conquerors. The [Mongols](#) burned it in 1239.

In the 19th century, Yelets became the largest trade center of the region.

There is much to see and visit here. There are a lot of stories and legends about the bright events of the past. Merchants United in different societies, and members of each considered it their duty to donate to the construction of the churches.

It is worth remembering one legend of Yelets.

Merchants once went to bow to the Tsar. They wanted their glorious city to become a provincial one, and they asked the Tsar to do so. And he answered: "As you build 33 temples, so it will be your way." Yelets merchants built churches very actively. But their dream did not come true. Yelets was destined to remain a County town.

The city has a theater, cinema and several sports venues.

Yelets is the only city in Lipetsk region, included in the list of cities of the Russian Federation, which have valuable monuments of culture, history and architecture.

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