How to Translate Russian Birth Certificate

We needed to make a translation of a Russian birth certificate into English. I tried to find a sample of a well translated Russian birth certificate and I did find some useful resources online. And here is a little summary about the main things to look for when making the translation yourself. And I have attached an example of the translated document.

If you are a bilingual person, then it's not a problem at all. All you have to do is just to translate names, geographical locations, such as city, district, region, country, place of registration of a child, etc. The most important thing when translating a birth certificate is to make sure that all the names are spelled (or transliterated) the same way they appear in all other official documents. This can be a big problem for the immigration service if this rule is not followed. For example, the name Aleksandr can be spelled in several ways, like Alexander, Aleksander, Aleksandr - you got an idea. If you do not have your name transliterated yet, chose one spelling and go with it in every document.

If you are not sure how to translate your place of birth, wikipedia is a good source of geographical information. Let's say your birth certificate states that you were born in город Винница, Винницкой области, УССР. There are several options you can chose from - city of Vinnytsia, Vinnitsa, Vinnica. It all depends on how the city was recorded in your other documents. Then goes the region which should be the same - Vinnytsia, and finally, Ukrainian SSR should do it for the republic you were born in. Please don't be confused about district and region: район - district, and область stands for region, or it can be translated as oblast.

For the USCIS purposes, all the stamps should be translated also. If the original document is old and the stamps are not readable, you can put a note at the bottom of your translation that the text in the stamp is not legible.

USCIS - United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (Служба гражданства и иммиграции в США)

I think I covered the most important parts when it comes to a Russian to English translation of a birth certificate.

Though most of the time, Immigration office requests a certified translation, that means that the translation has to be signed by a professional translator. If this is the case, you can always go with a professional Russian translation services. If you decide to use a translation agency, make sure you let them know the spelling of your names.

http://russiantranslators.blogspot.ru/2012/10/how-to-translate-russian-birth.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>загс сущ. фразы</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>общ. registry (отдел записей актов гражданского состояния); registry office (Dianka); Bureau of Vital Statistics, Vital Records Office (bald eagle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>юр.Н.П. office of civil registration; registration of acts of civil status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ЗАГС сокр. в начале</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>общ. Civil Registry Office (ales); local Registry of Births, Marriages and Deaths (lesska); Civil Status Registration Department(tat-konovalova); local Register (WisShake); Office of Vital Statistics (4uzho); Office of Vital Records (4uzho); Division of Vital Records (4uzho)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>полит. отдел записей актов гражданского состояния</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>соц.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>экон.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

-illegible [ɪˈledʒəb(ə)] прил. | Вебстер | фразы
| общ. неразборчивый; нечёткий (о почерке); трудный для чтения; неудобочитаемый; ненчитаемый (Hiema) |
| Макаров не поддающийся чтению (напр. о шрифте); неудобочитаемый (напр. о шрифте) |
| разг. нечитабельный (нерахоровий igisheva) |
| тенгиз. неразборчивый для чтения |
BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Citizen: (surname) (given name, patronymic)

was born on: March 01, 1984 (the first of March, year nineteen eighty-four)

Place of birth: city, settlement Chardzhou

District: Region: Republic: Soviet Socialist Republic

in witness whereof a record number 3094 was made in the Birth Registration Book on the 25th (day) of March 1st month, 1984 (year)

Parents:

Father: (surname, first name, patronymic)

Mother: (surname, first name, patronymic)

Place of state registration: Department of the Vital Records Registry Office

Date of issue: March 25, 1984

Head of the Vital Records Registry Office Department [signature]

[Handwritten inscription: LB199350 / 240500]

[Square stamp (partially illegible): Passport Issued / series 2804 No. 171539 / August 23, 2003]
Information about Translating Foreign Documents

USCIS often requires that copies of vital statistics records and civil documents from foreign countries be submitted with most applications, including naturalization applications.

Be aware that USCIS also has regulations about translations of civil documents. I have linked the USCIS page about Tips for Submitting Applications. On this page you can find good advice from the experts about how to file your application. Included on this page is the following information about translations:

“Please submit certified translations for all foreign language documents. The translator must certify that s/he is competent to translate and that the translation is accurate.

The certification format should include the certifier's name, signature, address, and date of certification. A suggested format is:

“Certification by Translator

I [typed name], certify that I am fluent (conversant) in the English and ________ languages, and that the above/attached document is an accurate translation of the document attached entitled ________.

Signature_________________________________
Date Typed Name
Address"

USCIS no longer routinely requires submission of original documents or "certified copies." Instead, ordinary legible photocopies of such documents will be acceptable for initial filing and approval of petitions and applications.

Copies. Unless specifically required that an original document be filed with an application or petition, an ordinary legible photocopy may be submitted. Original documents submitted when not required will remain a part of the record, even if the submission was not required.

Translations. Any document containing foreign language submitted to the Service shall be accompanied by a full English language translation which the translator has certified as complete and accurate, and by the translator's certification that he or she is competent to translate from the foreign language into English."

Guidance relating to the translation of foreign documents submitted with a passport application

Where a document written in a foreign language is submitted in support of a passport application it should be submitted with an English translation attached. It should be provided by a translator registered with an official organisation such as the Institute of Linguists or the Institute of Translation & Interpreting. A translator who is employed by a recognised Translation company the latter being a member of the Association of Translation Companies is also acceptable.

An official translation prepared overseas may be accepted provided the examiner is satisfied that the translator is a member of an official body in their own country, or where the translation has been certified as a true copy by the relevant Foreign Embassy.

Where a passport applicant asks that the Identity and Passport Service (IPS) recommend an acceptable translation service the applicant should be advised that it is not IPS policy to recommend any particular service. The applicant should be advised to contact the Embassy of the country where the document originated for details of appropriate translation services.

http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/154965.htm

СВИДЕТЕЛЬСТВО О РОЖДЕНИИ

Шаманаев
Иван Александрович
родился(лась)
07.07.2007 г.,
седьмого июля две тысячи седьмого года

место рождения
город Ставрополь
Ставропольский край
Россия
о чем 2007 года августа 03 числа
 составлена запись акта о рождении № 1091

Отец
Шаманаев
Александр Геннадьевич
гражданин России
(гражданин)

Мать
Шаманаева
Светлана Алексеевна
граждanka России
(граждanka)

Место государственной регистрации отдел записи актов гражданского состояния управления записи актов гражданского состояния Ставропольского края по городу Пятигорску

Дата выдачи 03 августа 2007 г.

I-DH № 840605

Руководитель органа записи актов гражданского состояния

З.Людина
CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH

< Last Name >

Last Name

< First Name, Patronymic >

First Name, Patronymic

Was born on < Date >

( < Date in Words > )

Place of Birth: < Name > Village, < Name > District, < Name > Region, Russia

which was entered in Birth Registry Book on < Date >

Record No. < Number >

Father:

< Last Name >

Last Name

< First Name, Patronymic >

First Name, Patronymic

Citizenship

Russia

Nationality (Entered at father’s will)

Mother:

< Last Name >

Last Name

< First Name, Patronymic >

First Name, Patronymic

Citizenship

Russia

Nationality (Entered at mother’s will)

Place of the State Registration: Civil Registry Bureau of the Municipal Administration of the city of < City >, < Region >

(name of the Civil Registration Authority)

Date of Issue: < Date >

[Official Seal: Civil Registry Bureau of the Municipal Administration of < City >, < Region >]

Chief Civil Registrar: [signature]

< Series – Number >
CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH

Alexandrov

Alexander Alexandrovich

was born on

October 10, 2010

the tenth day of October

two thousand and ten

place of birth

Moscow

Russia

whereby the birth record No. 0000

was made on

October 20, 2010

Father

Alexandrov

Alexander Alexandrovich
citizen of Russia

nationality Russian

Mother

Alexandrova

Alexandra Alexandrovna
citizen of Russia

nationality Russian

Officially registered at

Tsaritsyno Civil Registry Office

of the Moscow Civil Registry Department

Date of issue: October 20, 2010

Head of the Civil Registry Office: /Sign/

I. I. Ivanova

V-MIO No. 000000

Stamp: Passport No. 4507 95923 was issued on July 7, 2005 /Sign/

Official seal:

Moscow Government; Moscow Civil Registry Department; Tsaritsyno Civil Registry Office;
Principal State Registration No. (OGRN) 1037739512699; Taxpayer Identification No. (INN) 7704111479;
All-Russian Classifier of Enterprises and Organisations (OKPO) code 94001367.
Russian Federation citizenship was acquired pursuant to paragraph A, section 1, Article 12 of 62-F3 (federal law) dd. May 31, 2002. Resolution No. 665 dd. October 7, 2010, (resolution by the competent authority) by ZapadnoyeDegunino Section of the Russian Federal Migration Service Moscow Department (name of the competent authority); L.S. Date October 7, 2010 /Signed/.

Stamp: Foreign passport series 64 No. 084358 was issued on October 13, 2010. Section of Federal Migration Service Department No. 838 /Signed/.

Stamp: Passport and Visa Service of the Kirovskiy District Section of Internal Affairs of the Volgograd Regional Department of Internal Affairs; PASSPORT series 78 C7 No. 954263 WAS ISSUED on September 27, 2007. /Signed/.

Stamp: Passport and Visa Service of the Kirovskiy District Section of Internal Affairs of the Volgograd Regional Department of Internal Affairs; PASSPORT series 78 C7 No. 954263 WAS ISSUED on September 27, 2007. /Signed/.

 Stamp: APOSTILLE (THE HAGUE CONVENTION OF 5 OCTOBER 1961) 1. RUSSIAN FEDERATION THIS PUBLIC DOCUMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED BY ___________ (surname) 2. ACTING IN THE CAPACITY OF ___________ (position) of the Civil Registry Office 3. BEARS THE SEAL/STAMP OF ___________ (official name of the institution) of the Moscow Civil Registry Department CERTIFIED 5. IN ___________ Moscow 6. ON ___________ 1902210 (date in figures) 7. V.A.Kucherenko, Deputy Head of Archive and Information (name and position of the officer, Section of the Moscow Civil Registry Department) 8. NO. ___________ 868 9. SEAL: ___________ /Signed/.

Stamp: Moscow Government; Moscow Civil Registry Department; Archive and Information Section; Principal State Registration No. (OGRN): 1037739512689; Taxpayer Identification No. (INN) 7704111479; All-Russian Classifier of Enterprises and Organisations No. (OKPO) 04001367/
BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Citizen: _______________________________ (surname) _______________________________ (first name, patronymic)

was born on: _______________________________ March 01, 1984 (the first of March, year nineteen eighty-four) _______________________________ (date, month, year in figures and in words)

Place of birth: city, settlement _______________________________ Chardzhou

District: _______________________________

Region: _______________________________

Republic: _______________________________ Soviet Socialist Republic

in witness whereof a record number 1094 was made in the Birth Registration Book on the _______________________________ 25th (day) of March (month), 1984 (year)

Parents:

Father: _______________________________ (surname, first name, patronymic)

______________________________ (nationality)

Mother: _______________________________ (surname, first name, patronymic)

______________________________ Russian (nationality)

Place of state registration: Department of the Vital Records Registry _______________________________ Office

Date of issue: _______________________________ March 25, 1984

Head of the Vital Records Registry Office Department _______________________________ [signature]

[Round Seal: Executive Committee of the Chardzhou City Council of People’s Deputies / Department of the Vital Records Registry Office /

I-HT №

[Handwritten inscription: LB199350 / 240500]

[Square stamp (partially illegible): Passport Issued / series 2804 No. 171539 / August 23, 2003]
Below is a sample birth certificate in Russian and a sample certified translation of the birth certificate for USCIS.

CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH

Cherpakov
last name

Mikhail Victorovich
first name, middle name

was born on ________
18/02/2007
day, month, year (in numbers and in writing)

Eighteenth of February two thousand seven

Place of birth:
city of Moscow
Russia

in witness whereof an entry under number ________
________
was made in the Birth Register on the 14 day of February month 2007 year

Father:
Cherpakov
last name

Victor Grigor’yevich
first name, middle name

Citizen of the Russian Federation
citizenship
Russian
nationality (entered upon father’s desire)

Mother:
Cherpakova
last name

Alina Vladimirovna
first name, middle name

Citizen of the Russian Federation
citizenship
Russian
nationality (entered upon mother’s desire)

Place of state registration: Podolsk City Department of Civil Registrar Office
name and location of the authority

Main Civil Registrar Office Administration of Moscow Region
which has issued the Birth Certificate

Date of issue: 27 February, 2007

Head of the Civil Registrar Office [signature] R.A. Vitorova

[Round Seal: Civil Registrar Office * Podolsk City Department * Russian Federation * Moscow Region]

II-ИК № 769797

Certificate of Accuracy
I, Tamara von Schmidt-Pauli, certify that I am fluent in the English and Russian languages, hold B.A. and M.A. degrees in translation and that the above translation is an accurate translation of the Birth Certificate attached and that in the original document there were no erasures, deletions, nor any peculiarities whatsoever.

Signature: [Signature]

Date: May 30, 2011

Tamara von Schmidt-Pauli
P.O. Box 240652 Apple Valley, MN 55124

Tamara P. von Schmidt-Pauli
Professional Language Services