

FILM IN MOSCOW

Today, Moscow is redefining its role in the global film industry, positioning itself as a fully integrated production ecosystem. By combining infrastructure, financial incentives, and streamlined production processes, the city is becoming an increasingly relevant destination for international filmmakers.

UPTO 45 % REBATE



Aerial Kremlin View, Moscow

MOSCOW ON THE BOLLYWOOD MAP



Integrated Production Ecosystem

This transformation is driven by Moscow Film Cluster, a large - scale city initiative led by the Mayor of Moscow, Sergey Sobyenin. The cluster brings together key elements of film production into a single system, allowing projects to move seamlessly through all stages - from development to distribution.

The ecosystem integrates major production facilities, including Film City, Film Factory, and the recently expanded Gorky Film Studio, alongside Film Commission and cinema chain. Together, these elements form a full-cycle production environment designed to simplify processes and support projects.

For filmmakers, this translates into both creative and operational flexibility. Moscow offers a wide range of settings – from historic streets and classical architecture to contemporary urban landscapes and purpose-built sets – enabling productions to recreate multiple locations within one city.

This versatility is reinforced by ongoing investments in studio infrastructure and modern production technologies, including virtual productions, allowing filmmakers to combine physical and digital environments efficiently.

Incentives and Co-production

A key competitive advantage is Moscow's financial incentive system, offering rebates of up to 45% on eligible

production expenses. This creates a predictable & cost-efficient framework for international productions, reducing risk while maintaining creative control.

These advantages are already being realized in practice. In 2024, the Indian blockbuster The Greatest of All Time (AGS Entertainment) was partially filmed in Moscow with the support of Moscow Film Cluster, demonstrating the city's ability to accommodate large-scale international productions.

At the same time, co-production is moving from concept to execution. The Russian - Indian project “Smash” has recently completed filming in Moscow, including both on-location shoots in the city and production within Film City. “Smash” became one of the first international projects to fully utilize the facilities of Moscow Film Cluster as an integrated system. Moscow Film Commission provided end-to-end support, including permitting, coordination, and on-ground support, ensuring efficient production workflows across multiple locations. The project is leveraging Moscow's financial incentive framework, further reinforcing the city's role as a practical and economically viable partner for international co-productions.

The co-production agreement for the project was signed between Smena & WISH Media (Russia) and Kartina Entertainment (India) during the Moscow International Film Week – an annual industry platform held in August that brings together producers, studios, and international partners. The

event continues to serve as a key entry point for developing partnerships and launching new projects, with the next edition scheduled for this year.

India Market Integration

Beyond infrastructure and incentives, Moscow offers an important intangible advantage: familiarity. For Indian filmmakers, the city is culturally recognizable, visually expressive, and more accessible as a production environment.

This is further supported by the development of practical cooperation mechanisms, including more flexible financial interaction and growing institutional dialogue, which together simplify the process of working across markets.

In parallel, discussions are developing with major industry players such as Jio Creative Labs, focusing on new formats of collaboration and cross-cultural storytelling. This signals growing interest not only in filming in Moscow, but in building long-term creative and industrial partnerships.

As global production continues to expand, filmmakers are increasingly seeking destinations that offer more than visual appeal. They require reliable systems that streamline production, optimize costs, an support projects end-to-end.

For filming enquiries contact:
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KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Moscow Film Cluster - Integrated Production Ecosystem

Moscow Film Cluster brings together Film City, Film Factory, in-house production Gorky Film Studio, Film Commission, cinema chain, digital platform – integrated within a single system, enabling turnkey, end-to-end production through one entry point.

Up to 45% rebate : Predictable financial framework for international productions

Russia - India track in action : More than 10 Indian cos. have collaborated with Moscow Film Cluster in the past six months

Moscow International Film Week : Annual industry platform held in Moscow each August, bringing together producers, studios and international partners and serving as a key hub for co-production and international collaboration

Smash as a flagship co-production : Agreement signed at Moscow International Film Week. Production completed using full cluster infrastructure

Moscow for India : Simplified Financial Interaction

Local presence of Russian banks in India enables faster transactions and reduced reliance on intermediaries

Fast cash flow : Production payments - quick process, minimizing delays

Simplified visa access : E - visa (up to 120 days) with option for long-term projects

Strong India connection : Growing Indian projects and visitors leading to Cultural familiarity and audience recognition