

Jilin conveys the spirit of Sino-Russian friendship to the rest of the world

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There is a celebration of a special kind this week in Moscow, with a culture week that highlights Sino-Russian friendship and points the way to future

cooperation and communication, officials have said.

The 2011 "Experience China" Trip to Russia — Jilin Cultural Week, which runs from September 19 to 25, acknowledges the cultural interaction and

bilateral ties that have improved relations in recent years.

Wang Chen, head of China's State Council Information Office, explained, "This year is the 10th anniversary of the 'Sino-Russia Treaty of

Friendship' and this culture week is a significant way to show the spirit of the treaty and to improve the bilateral friendship."

Two previous examples of this sort of celebration were 2006's "Russia Year" activities in China, followed by 2007's "China Year" activities in Russia.

The organizer of the "Experience China" activity is the State Council Information Office, whose goal is to show Chinese culture to the outside world. It tries to find the best examples of Chinese culture for its programs to show both cultural relics and modern art and society.

This year the activity focuses on Jilin province in the Northeast, which borders on Russia to the east, and North Korea to the south.

Jilin also has a long history of communicating with other nations and, over the past two years, has held a Northeast Asia

Culture and Arts Week, the Changchun Film Festival, Changchun International Sculpture Exhibition, and Northeast Asia Auto Model Competition.

Today, the province is concentrating on China's strategic plan to develop the Northeast through increased industrialization, urbanization, and modernization of agriculture.

Thanks to its economic, cultural, and social development, Jilin is becoming a star in the Northeast.

"This cultural week lets us give the Russian people a taste of Jilin's culture and attract more people to the province for sight-seeing and investment," explained Xun Fengqi, head of the Jilin Publicity Department.

Xun said they will have painting and photography exhibits and folk culture shows, as well as trade and tourism promotions to get more visitors and business people.



ZHENG CHUNSHENG / FOR CHINA DAILY

The evening party for the opening ceremony of culture week came with this special folk performance, whose theme was "Spirit of Changbai Mountains".



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Flight CZ6146, from Beijing, arrives at Changchun's Longjia Airport, in Jilin province, on Sept 5. This was the first time that a long-range, and wide-body Airbus A330-200, owned by the Jilin branch of China Southern Airlines, has landed at Changchun's airport. The airport now has four places at its terminal that handle this E-Class aircraft, after its recent expansion, to help serve the great number of people at the Northeast Asia Investment and Trade Expo, from Sept 6 to 11. China Southern Airlines says that it will increase the number of its aircraft serving Jilin, with the total number expected to reach 15 in the near future.

HAPPY TO SEE MORE RUSSIAN VISITORS

The culture week's opening ceremony was on September 21 in the Kremlin Grand Theater, with 5,600 guests that included the Chinese ambassador to Russia; Russia-China Friendship Association and Moscow government officials; Russian celebrities in the arts, media, and culture; Chinese representatives in Russia; and other foreign ambassadors.

The opening ceremony's evening party was a major part of the week, with the theme "Spirit of Changbai Mountains", a combination of folk activities and modern stage performances, the organizing committee said.

The love stories, legends, and descriptions of Jilin's beauty combined to paint a vivid picture of the province.

A painting and photography exhibit in the front hall of the Grand Theater on September 21, was meant to be a prelude to the other activities, with scenes of Jilin's economy, society, daily lives and tourism.

That afternoon, there were programs on the culture industry in Jilin to get investors interested, with folk artists show in their paper-cutting, painting, and other skills to Russian visitors.

On September 22, officials from the Russian Culture, Publication, and Mass Media bureaus; national TV and broadcasting representatives; and people in the arts, media and tourism came together to discuss bilateral communications and future cooperation in the culture industry.

Other activities will include parties for young Chinese and Russian artists and open-air cultural performances.

"We sincerely hope that the Russian people will get a better understanding of Jilin province from the culture week's activities and we'll really be happy to see more Russians visiting and investing in Jilin," said Xun Fengqi, head of the Jilin Publicity Department.

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