



### **Phoebe Taplin:**

Phoebe Taplin, is a freelance journalist and author of four walking guides to Moscow. At the time of the interview Phoebe had recently returned from Moscow, where she and her husband had lived for the past 4 years. In her effort to discover the city, she formed a walking group and researched where to walk in Moscow. Many of these walks were published in the Moscow News, a local paper, and Phoebe was selecting 48 of these to be published in guide book form. The interview was recorded on a walk around residential streets in Bishops Stortford, a marked contrast from many of the walks in Moscow.

Notes from the podcast interview by Andrew Stuck: Recorded in May 2011 and published in May 2012 on <http://talkingwalking.net>

The interview opens with Phoebe explaining how she began to discover Moscow on foot, and how her walks became a regular feature in the English language Moscow News newspaper. <http://themoscownews.com/>

Her books of Moscow Walks, published in English and Russian, are set out by month, providing a choice of routes pertinent to each season, and fall into four main types:

City tours, walks in parks in and around the city, walks in the towns and villages surrounding Moscow, and thematic walks, celebrating seasonal highlights.

More about the books here: <http://themoscownews.com/ournews/20120503/189687562.html>

Order the books from here: <http://www.amazon.co.uk/s?encoding=UTF8&search-alias=books-uk&field-author=Phoebe%20Taplin>

Dacha villages are summer retreats: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dacha>

"Podmoskovi" = area around Moscow

Bitsa Park has the unpleasant reputation of being associated with the Chessboard killer.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bitsa\\_Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bitsa_Park)

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In the interview, Phoebe was asked two routes that she would recommend – quite a challenge for someone who has researched several hundred!

### **Phoebe's recommended routes were:**

In Berlin – a walk beside the River Havel to Peacock Island:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pfaueninsel>

In Moscow – walks in either of two parks: Kolomenskoye Park

<http://phoebetaplin.com/?p=408>

Or VDNKh, home to the All-Russian Exhibition <http://phoebetaplin.com/?p=225>