

Today in History, Jan. 31

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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A vodka museum in Verkhniye Mandrogi, Leningrad region. **Veikia**

Happy birthday Russian vodka! 149 years ago today, on Jan. 31, 1865, Russian scientist Dmitry Mendeleev found the ideal ratio of alcohol to water for vodka. He did so in his dissertation "On Combining Alcohol and Water," where he set the 40 percent alcohol standard that has lasted ever since.

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