**RUSSIAN ALPHABET**

\*\*When the letter **O** is not stressed, it is pronounced in a ‘lazy’ way (not very distinctly) and sounds more like /a/. So, for example, in **ЛОНДОН**, the first stressed O is pronounced clearly like /o/, but the second (unstressed) O is more like /a/.

The vowels **E** and **Я** are also pronounced less distinctly when not stressed.

\* For many names, the letter **Г** (/g/) rather than **X** (/kh/) is customarily used for the English **H** (/h/). So, **Harry - Гарри, Henry - Генри**. But for other names 'X'(kh) is more often used: **Holly - Холли**. Sometimes, both versions are possible: **Hannah - Ханна or Ганна**. So, if your name has the letter H (making the sound /h/, normally at the beginning of the name), you can choose the version that you like more.

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| **Russian letter** | **Closest English equivalent** |
| A  Б  В  Г\*  Д  Е  Ё  Ж  З  И  Й  К  Л  М  Н  О\*\*  П  Р  С  Т  У  Ф  Х\*  Ц  Ч  Ш  Щ  ъ  ы  ь  Э  Ю  Я | /a/, as in father  /b/  /v/  /g/, as in girl  /d/  /ye/, as in yes  /yo/, as in yonder  /zh/, as in treasure  /z/  /ee/, as in meet  /y/, as in boy  /k/  /l/  /m/  /n/  /o/, as in or  /p/  /r/  /s/  /t/  /oo/, as in shoot  /f/  /kh/, as in loch  /ts/, as in that’s  /ch/  /sh/  /shch/  hard sign  ? (writ)  soft sign  /e/, as in net  /yu/, as in use  /ya/, as in yard |