**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** |
| AБВ Г\*ДЕЁЖЗИЙКЛМН О\*\*ПРСТУФ Х\*ЦЧШЩъыьЭЮЯ | /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 |