

Admission Ticket to Lenin's & Stalin's Mausoleum in Red Square, Moscow.

18 November 1954.

Measures 4 1/2" x 2 3/4", printed on red cardboard, dated for one specific date. The inscription on the verso in lead pencil lists the historic landmarks of the Moscow Kremlin the owner of the ticket saw during his or her visit.

In very good to excellent condition. The ticket is very lightly soiled and has a diagonal crease near the top right-side corner, the wear just adding to the air of age and authenticity of the item. The handwriting on the verso is a little unstable but clear and perfectly legible.

Every Soviet citizen who lived there in the 60s, 70s and so on, knows that access to the Mausoleum was free of charge and did not require a ticket. You just join the line, often a mile long, and slowly shuffle forward. But apparently, that was not the case in the 1950s. We did not find any evidence that admission tickets cost money, but, evidently, access to the Mausoleum was controlled and allowed upon presentation of a ticket, just like the one we are offering.

Stalin's body was placed in the Mausoleum next to Lenin where it stayed until 31 October 1961 when Nikita Khrushchev's campaign against Stalin's cult of personality was in full swing, removing Stalin's monuments, paintings, busts, encyclopedia articles, books by and about Stalin, even his image from thousands of red banners.

Item# 45762

\$80.00

