

Georgians Make Rare Flight to Sochi for Games

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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SOCHI — The first flight from Georgia to Sochi in more than 10 years has carried four Georgian Olympic officials to the upcoming Winter Games.

Regular flights between Georgia and Russia were canceled when a brief war between the two nations broke out in August 2008 and there were no flights to Sochi dating back to before the fighting. There have been occasional flights between Georgia's capital, Tbilisi, and Moscow since 2010.

The Sochi Games have touched a nerve in Georgia, a small nation in the Caucasus Mountains bordering Russia. Many in the country remain bitter over the 2008 war.

The Olympic host city is 450 kilometers from Tbilisi and only 4 1/2 kilometers from the border with Abkhazia.

Only 15 passengers were aboard the one-hour Georgian Airlines flight, company spokeswoman Nana Khutsishvili said Tuesday.

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