

Russian Tourists Trade Egypt for Other International Destinations

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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Nearly half of Russians who had bought package tours to Egypt were prepared to pay extra to change their destination, even before Moscow officially confirmed the Sinai plane crash on Oct. 31 was an act of terrorism, the deputy head of the Russian Tour Operators Association Dmitry Gorin said, the Vedomosti newspaper Wednesday.

Favorite alternate destinations were Israel, Thailand, India and Vietnam, with domestic locales, such as Sochi, trailing far behind.

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According to Russia's Federal Tourist Agency Rostourism, Russian tour operators may see

demand for foreign travel falling by up to 40 percent following the announcement Tuesday from the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB) that a terrorist attack was responsible for the downing of the Russian Airbus over the Sinai Peninsula, the RBC news agency reported Tuesday.

“Of course, negative, frightening events such as a terrorist attack have an instant impact on demand for package tours,” deputy head of Rostourism Oleg Safonov said, RBC reported.

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