

Airlines Cash in on Russia's Turkey Tourism Revival

July 06, 2016

The  **Moscow Times**

The price of airplane tickets from Moscow to the Turkish resort of **Antalya** have risen by 75.6 percent in the last week as companies cash in on a surge of Russian holidaymakers visiting the country.

Data from the Association of Tour Operators of Russia (ATOR) also **reported** found that the number of direct and connecting flights to **Antalya** have gone up by 25 percent since Russian President Vladimir **Putin** officially lifted restrictions on tourism in Turkey on June 30.

Prices are expected to fall 30 percent in the coming weeks when **charter** flights are cleared to resume by the Federal Air Transport **Agency**.

Some 23 thousand people searched for Antalya ticket prices in a **single** day on July 5, but flights to Istanbul have not seen similar **demand**, ATOR said.

Potential tourists appear to be continuing to steer clear of the city **following** a terrorist attack at the city's Ataturk airport on June 28 **despite** reassurances of increased security

measures.

The Kremlin banned package tours to Turkey after a Russian jet was shot down by the Turkish air force in November last year. The measure was lifted following an apology by Turkish President Recep Erdogan.

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