

Russia's Yandex Launches Rapid Grocery Delivery in France

Once dubbed "Russia's Google," Yandex is eyeing a slice of the European fast food market.

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Yandex has launched under the "Yango Deli" brand in Paris. MART PRODUCTION / pexels

Russian technology giant Yandex has launched its ultra-fast grocery delivery service in Paris, the company said Tuesday.

The service — named Yandex Lavka in Russia — will operate under the brand name of "Yango Deli," offering 15-minute grocery delivery to addresses across the French capital.

Paris marks the first European market the company is hoping to break into, following a launch in Israel at the end of 2020. The company plans to launch in London later this year.

The expansion follows a period of fast expansion for Russia's online grocery services, seen by analysts as a segment of the market with vast potential.

Yandex's rival Mail.Ru is <u>planning</u> to launch its Samokat rapid delivery service in New York City later this year.

Related article: <u>Russia's Yandex to Launch Delivery Robots in U.S.</u>

The Paris service will cover an area home to around 1 million people upon launching and will soon expand into more areas across the city, the company said.

Yandex, initially developed as a Russian equivalent of Google, has aggressively expanded across Russia's online space. It is now the country's largest taxi operator in addition to running one of the largest e-commerce sites and fast food delivery networks in Russia. It is also pouring investment into areas ranging from <u>self-driving cars</u> to fast food delivery.

Revenues were up 54% in the first half of 2021 to 154 billion rubles (\$2.1 billion), according to the company's financial statements.

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