

Moscow Public Transportation Made Easier by Unified Pass

By The Moscow Times

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Muscovites will now be able to use all forms of public transportation with a single pass.

Starting Feb. 1, tickets for the metro for a fixed number of rides will be valid on other forms of transportation as well: buses, trolleys, trams and marshrutkas, or shuttle minibuses, Kommersant reported.

Unlimited tickets valid for a period of 30, 90 or 360 days will only be usable in the metro, however.

The prices will remain the same as before, said Dmitry Belikov, adviser to the head of the city's transportation department.

"Starting Friday, passengers who've purchased passes to the metro will also be able to use them on other forms of city transportation: trolleybuses, autobuses and trams. The price stays the same, and we want to try and see if it's convenient, if it works, and so that they get used to it," Belikov said.

"But this is the first step to introducing a whole new ticket-pricing system from April. At that time, there will be entirely new kinds of tickets that haven't been used in the city before, plastic cards in the form of digital wallets that will allow you to also travel on suburban elektrichkas, on Aeroexpress, and to pay for parking," he said.

A similar system is already in place in many European cities.

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