

Moscow Hotel Prices Fit for a Vice President

By The Moscow Times

July 01, 2013



A two-day trip to Moscow by U.S. Vice President Joe Biden in 2011 raised more than a few eyebrows when it was revealed that the Ritz-Carlton pocketed a cool \$665,545 a night for the pleasure of hosting the VP and his entourage.

This figure overshadows President Barack Obama's \$450,000 tab for his 2011 trip to Warsaw, as well as the \$585,000 hotel bill for Biden's trip to Paris this year, as reported by The Weekly Standard.

But White House visits aside, just how expensive is it for the average business traveler to get a good night's sleep in the nation's capital?

For the ninth consecutive year, data management firm HGR has found that Moscow hotels are the most expensive in the world for business travelers, with the city's hotel rates having increased by 4 percent over 2012.

An average night's stay in a Moscow Hotel room cost around \$398 in 2012, according to the results of the survey, which were published in January this year.

And its not just the price of the hotel rooms that bring a tear to the eye. Research by travel website Tripadvisor revealed that Moscow's hotel extras are also among the most expensive in the world.

The survey, which looked at key cities around the globe, counted the cost of six common hotel items and services and found — on average — a packet of peanuts in Moscow cost \$12 and a club sandwich cost \$21.

Meanwhile, those prone to rummaging around in the hotel fridge for a nightcap may wish to think again as a mini-bottle of vodka will set you back about \$17.

But when compared to the \$321,000 limo bill Biden racked up for his trip to Europe earlier this year, you may decide to afford yourself the occasional luxury.

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