

Catch the Anapa Sun (Photo Essay)

By The Moscow Times

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Vacationers enjoying a sunset on the beach in Anapa, a Russian resort on the northern shore of the Black Sea. **Vladimir Filonov**

Moscow might be shivering in cool rainfall this month, but the southern resort town of Anapa is drenched in the sun.

Perched on the northern shore of the Black Sea, this popular tourist destination in the Krasnodar region is attracting a large number of Russians who normally would have flown to resorts in Turkey or Egypt but decided to stay closer to home this summer over concerns for their personal safety amid unrest in those two countries.

During a visit to Anapa, Moscow Times photographer Vladimir Filonov found that few regretted their decision. As local vendors hawked dried fish and lifeguards rode around on four-wheelers on the sandy beach, vacationers played a variety of sports, stuck their feet in aquariums for fish foot massages, took photos with Africans dressed in native garb for 100 rubles a pop, and, of course, spent long hours relaxing in the warm sun.

View more snapshots from Filonov's photo essay <u>here</u>.



Heading to the beach with prized possessions: a boy with his inner tube and a merchant offering camel rides.

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