

## Tourism Agency Wants Employers to Subsidize Domestic Vacations

By The Moscow Times

December 16, 2013



Russian companies could start paying for a portion of their employees' vacations inside the country if a proposal by the state tourism agency to boost domestic tourism comes to fruition.

Up to 40 or 50 percent of Russians' holidays could be paid for by their employer under the plan as long as the time is spent inside Russia, Rossiiskaya Gazeta reported Monday.

Alexander Radkov, head of the state tourism agency Rostourism, said the idea would promote domestic tourism and draw profits to federal and regional budgets.

The program envisions the creation of an organization to coordinate deals for interested employers to buy wholesale package holidays to Russian tourist destinations and resell them to employees at a discounted rate.

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