

Avalanche Kills 2 at Sochi Resort

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The  **Moscow Times**

An avalanche killed two skiers on Sunday at the Rosa Khutor mountain resort used for the Sochi Olympics the day after it opened to the public, the resort said.

Six skiers were on the middle section of Labirint run when the avalanche struck, Rosa Khutor said in a statement. The snow buried two women, and rescuers who dug them out were unable to save them, it said, while the four other skiers escaped unharmed.

The Kuban regional branch of state-owned Rossia television, citing witnesses, reported earlier that three people had been killed in the avalanche.

Rosa Khutor was the site of the Alpine skiing competitions during the Winter Games in February and the Paralympics that followed. The resort reopened to the public on Saturday.

The resort said it was clearing the snow from the run and trying to determine the cause of the avalanche. The Rosa Khutor management also expressed its condolences to the family and friends of the two skiers who died.

A map of the mountain shows the Labirint run located at the far edge of the resort and labeled

black, the most difficult of four categories.

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