

Russian Shops to Accept Driving Licences for Alcohol Sales

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Vedomosti

Russians will soon be able to use their driving licence as proof of age when buying alcohol, [the Kommersant newspaper reported Tuesday](#).

Shoppers will be allowed to show their passport, driving licence, a residence or temporary residence permit, military ID card, or refugee status certificate from March 2017, according to a letter reportedly sent to retailers by Russia's Industry and Trade Ministry.

A Russian or foreign passport is currently the only approved method of identification when buying alcohol in Russia's shops, although a driving licence can be accepted when buying other age-restricted items, such as tobacco.

Cashiers who sell alcohol to minors currently face a fine of 30,000 (\$461) to 50,000 rubles (\$769). Companies can be given penalties of between 300,000 (\$4,616) to 500,000 rubles (\$7,694).

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