

Thousands of Moscow Taxi Drivers Sanctioned for World Cup Price Hikes

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Taxis/ Nikerichev Andrei/ Moskva News Agency

Nearly 100,000 Moscow taxi drivers have been sanctioned by law enforcement officers for violations including overcharging customers, operating an unlicensed taxi and driving without a license during the World Cup in Russia.

At least 3 million Russian and foreign tourists descended onto Moscow during the month-long football championship this summer. The Moscow branch of Russia's Interior Ministry investigated 183,000 taxicabs after June 19 following complaints about inflated prices, its deputy chief was quoted as saying.

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“Administrative proceedings have been brought against more than 95,000 drivers,” the RBC news website [quoted](#) Moscow's deputy police chief, Sergei Plakhikh, as saying Thursday.

A “majority” of the cases involved price hikes, RBC cited him as saying.

High-profile cases of overcharging around the World Cup featured a Vietnamese tourist who was billed 23,000 rubles (\$360) for a ride to Sheremetyevo Airport from Moscow and a Saudi fan who paid 30,000 rubles (\$470), [according](#) to the Newsru.com website.

More than 1,000 foreigners were ordered to leave Russia and 341 were deported during the World Cup, Plakhikh was [quoted](#) as saying by Interfax.

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