

# Winter Storm Brings Heavy Snow and Disrupts Travel in Moscow

February 19, 2026



**Vasily Kuzmichyonok / Moskva News Agency**

Moscow was walloped by a powerful winter storm between Wednesday night and Thursday morning, bringing heavy snow and strong winds that created treacherous road conditions and led to flight delays and cancellations.

Mayor Sergei Sobyenin said the Russian capital was expecting more than 70% of the monthly average snowfall throughout Thursday alone.

“Winter is breaking all records. The snowfalls are relentless... Snow will continue throughout the day, the night, and into tomorrow,” Sobyenin [wrote](#) on Telegram.

Meteorologists [said](#) snow cover in Moscow stood at 175% of the daily average snowfall for Feb. 19, but it still fell short of a daily record broken in 2024. Blizzard conditions are forecast to continue into Friday morning, they said.

“The situation is extremely difficult, but I’m confident the city will manage,” Sobyenin said.

The city's Transportation Department [urged](#) Muscovites to use the underground metro instead of driving to save time and free up road space for snowplows.

**Related article:** [Russian Ports Warn of Cargo Slowdown Due to Tighter Inspections and Ice Conditions](#)

Traffic monitoring services said morning commuters faced significant [delays](#) in the city center along the Garden Ring, as well as the Third Ring Road and the Moscow Ring Road.

Several major traffic accidents involving at least 10 vehicles were [reported](#) on the M-4 Don highway near the Moscow region town of Stupino, south of the capital.

Civil aviation authorities [said](#) 33 flights at Moscow airports had been either canceled or delayed for more than two hours as of Thursday morning.

Like much of Europe, Russia has been facing an especially frigid and snowy winter due to a [disruption](#) of the Polar Vortex, a large region of cold, rotating air above the North Pole.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2026/02/19/winter-storm-brings-heavy-snow-and-disrupts-travel-in-moscow-a91994>