Expectations of Russian Tourists: A View from the Russian Perspective

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Prejudices Russia













Price drop of commodities leads to economic downturn, accelerated by the Western sanctions against Russia

Major drivers for Russian economy



 After years of stability oil has sharply reduced giving the Russian economy a major hit

- Gas price has seen a dip already in 2012 and shows more stability in the current crisis
- FX was reacting most dramatic with huge impact on everything that is imported; sanctions are even worsening this

Economic and political factors put pressure on demand for outbound travel

- Economic downturn leading to recession. Although Russia is in much better shape than in 2008, it still struggles to generate growth
- Inflation and currency devaluation suppress demand especially for imported goods and trips abroad
- Ban on flights to Turkey and Egypt the largest outbound destinations
- > Massive support for Domestic travel as substitute of destinations abroad
- Restrictions for state officials to travel abroad 4m people affected
- Fourism gaining political importance regulating the market



Shift from Outbound to Domestic travel as growth generator

Outbound tourism travel [passengers]





- Historic CAGR of 18% up to 2013
- RUB devaluation made outbound travel two times more expensive
- Bounce back expected in 2017
- Still market penetration very low at
 5% compared to 30-40% in the EU

- Huge infrastructure projects for the Olympics (hotels, roads, attractions)
- As of 2013/14 large tour operators support this development
- Only 10-15% of the market is organized by tour operators

Germany as a destination for Russian travelers

- Historically about 1.5m trips to Germany, more than half with tourism purpose
- Business people / VFR also could be counted as tourists
- In 2015 drop of 20%
- > 2016 data not available but expected similar decrease
- Tourism mainly related to sightseeing / culture, events, skiing, shopping
- Mainly in large cities Berlin, Munich, etc.



Moscow accounts for half of the travelers abroad

- Moscow 12m inhabitants city, 16m metropolitan area
- Saint Petersburg 5m inhabitants
- 12 further cities between 1m and 1.5m inhabitants
- Concentration in the West of the Federation

Population density



Main departure regions







Tour operators boosting the travel, key to a mass approach and large scale travel flow



- Turkey from 1m to 4m travelers
- Egypt from 0.4mto 3m travelers
- Thailand from 0.1m to 1.5m travelers
- Latest case Domestic travel

Let's go!



Travel and booking behavior

Let's go!

Booking behavior	Airline
 Very late booking behavior – 65% of Sales within a month before departure 	 After bankruptcy of Transaero last year, Aeroflot holds >50% market share
 Trend towards individual travel – hotel and flight online, but not for beach holiday 	Major EU airlines cut their flight routes
 FX impact – lower category, later booking 	 Government financially supports only domestic destinations
Destinations	Retail
 Most popular are non-visa destinations: Turkey, Egypt, Thailand, Dubai 	 Travel packages are predominantly purchased in travel agencies 97%
 Difficulties to obtain EU visa in regions 	 Hotels, flights individually booked are purchased and fulfilled online
 Mass destinations are supported by tour operators taking the charter risks 	Role of mobile commerce increasing



Visa free / visa upon arrival Value for money





Safe

Airport

If beach, ski or roundtrips – supported by TO

Politically acceptable

Spasibo !