

**A growth of 21 per cent in the number of Russians vacationing in Israel in 2011 drives a very prosperous Israeli tourism season**

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The number of Russian tourists visiting Israel has increased by 21 per cent in half1 2011 over half1 2010, according to the Israeli Ministry of Tourism.

In June 2011, over 20,000 Russian visited Israel, a 72 per cent increase over June 2010.

Total number of tourists visiting Israel reached 1.6 million in Half1 2011, a growth of 14 per cent over Half1 2010.