

TRANSPORT - AIR

New Air Route Syktyvkar-Tashkent

Yet another straight line has appeared on the air route map of the Komi Civil Aviation Administration: Syktyvkar--Tashkent. With a stop along the way in Ufa, a comfortable Tu-134 airliner is bringing passengers from the northern republic to the capital of fraternal Uzbekistan in only five and a half hours.

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Substantial Investments Needed to Improve Flight Safety at Chukotka Airports

A year ago an acquaintance of mine, a Chukotka resident, made an almost round-the-world journey to reach - Alaska. He had discovered relatives there who had invited him for a visit. Of course, it was very interesting to be in America, and especially to meet with your own kin, but . . . My acquaintance is far from being a millionaire and lives exclusively from his work. His expenses for this journey, however, were so great that I don't believe he has finished settling his debts to this day.

"Here's Alaska," he bubbled, jabbing his finger at the map. "Our ancestors used to visit each other on skis, but I can't imagine going there again. Such expenses!"