

Ras Al Khaimah tourist numbers surge by 28 percent

Ras Al Khaimah Tourism said on Sunday that tourist arrivals in Ras Al Khaimah surged by 28 per cent in 2007, the most significant increase in the last few years. The official number of tourists visiting Ras Al Khaimah per annum is around 215,000, excluding day visitors.

RAK Tourism manager Hilary McCormack said, "A lot of our tourists are coming from European countries like Germany, France and Italy. We are focusing on increasing the number of tourists from Russia."

Ras Al Khaimah will open nearly two dozen five-star hotels in the next five years helping to accommodate the 2.5 million tourists the emirate aims to attract by 2012. Occupancy of major hotels currently exceeds 85 per cent as tourists respond to RAK Tourism's promotion of the emirate internationally.