

Russian fraudsters scam thousands of Chinese World Cup fans

Sports

Posted by:

Posted on : 2018/6/19 11:34:57

China investigating a Russian company for selling more than 3,500 counterfeit tickets to Chinese tourists and travel agents.

By [Mimi Lau](#) for The South China Morning Post, June 17, 2018 More than 3,500 of the more than 10,000 counterfeit 2018 World Cup tickets available globally have been sold to Chinese soccer fans, according to Chinese media. The online news portal from western China, Thecover.cn, referred to a Russian embassy notice on social media, which said its government was investigating a Russian company for selling more than 3,500 counterfeit tickets to Chinese tourists and travel agents. Soccer fans from China have snapped up 40,000 tickets for the [Fifa World Cup](#) in Russia that kicked off on Thursday, even though its national team failed to qualify. The embassy notice said the "Anzhi Company" from Russia claimed to have obtained written approval to sell tickets from the World Cup Russia organising committee but the letter turned out to be fake, according to Thecover.cn. The story has gone viral on overseas Chinese media websites, but received only limited coverage in mainland China. The notice has since been removed from the embassy's social media channel. Yang Jun, a travel planner with China Youth Travel in Sichuan province, told Thecover.cn that more than 1,000 of the fake tickets were sold in Chengdu alone. [...]
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