The Orthodox Church recommends Russians to abstain from abroad pilgrimage



The Russian Orthodox Church official urges Russians not to hurry with pilgrimage to abroad shrine, in spite of abolished quarantine restrictions.

"I highly recommend and advise our Russian citizens not to go abroad until it becomes entirely safe," head of the Synodal Department for External Church Relations Metropolitan Hilarion said on air *Church and the World* program on *Rossiya-24 TV*.

He points out that there are many places for pilgrimage and shrines in Russia – ancient monasteries, holy relics, churches. The metropolitan mentioned the Mirozhsky Monastery in Pskov with frescoes of the 12th century.

"We have such shrines as the Solovetsky Monastery and the Valaam Monastery, they are not open yet, but I think that access to these monasteries will be given earlier than opening of the boundaries," the metropolitan said.

Source