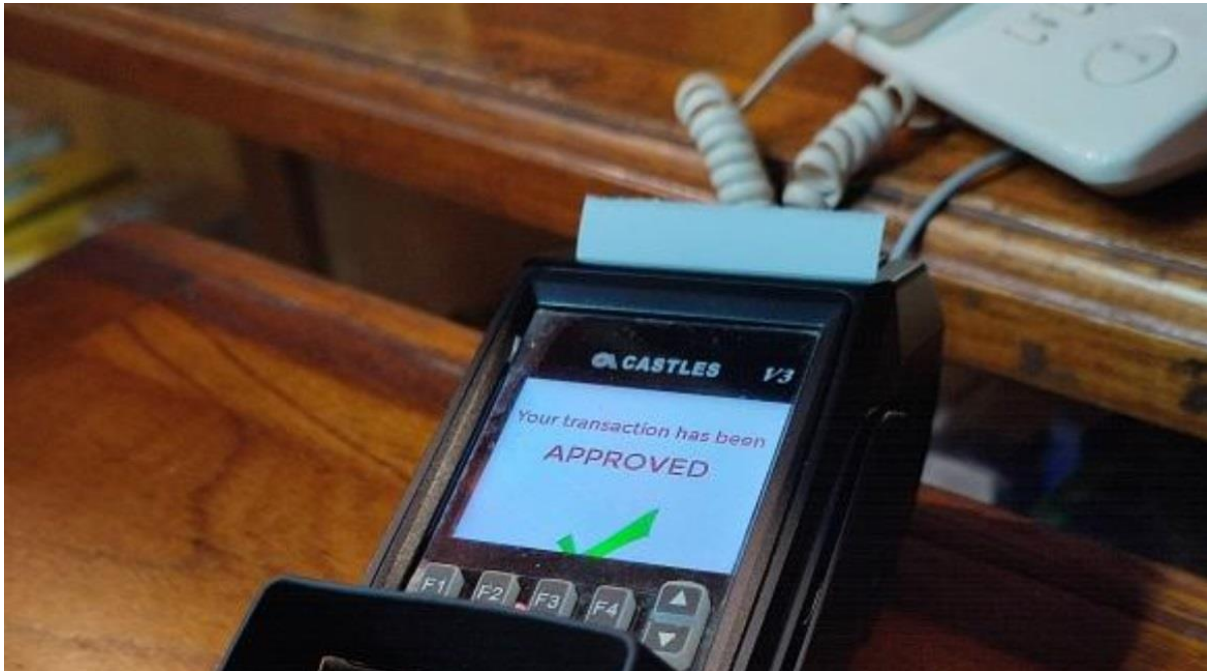


## Cuba launches payment transactions with Russian Mir credit cards



Since December 5, the first hotels in Cuba accept Russian "Mir" credit cards (Source: [BCC](#))

After several announcements, Cuba [officially launched](#) payment transactions with Russian "Mir" credit cards on December 5. With this step, the Island wants to offer the growing number of Russian tourists, who are excluded from Visa and Mastercard due to financial sanctions, a simple payment option.

Everything went smoothly during the first test. Representatives of the Russian National Card Payment System (NSPK) and the Cuban Central Bank (BCC) personally convinced themselves of the functioning of the "Mir" card in Havana's "Casa del Café" on Wednesday, as [reported](#) by the state news portal "Cubadebate". The integration into the ruble-based payment system is intended to benefit tourism and trade. In June, the two countries agreed on a "strategic partnership", under which food and energy supplies as well as new investments are planned. The development of tourism is also part of the agreements. Cuba plans to increase the number of Russian guests from the current 120,000 to over half a million per year. In the coming weeks, a Russian grocery store will open in Havana for the first time since the 1990s.

As Cuba's Tourism Minister Juan Carlos García Granda explained, payments with Mir cards will initially be possible in hotels in Havana and Varadero. This will be followed by a gradual introduction "in other tourist facilities and throughout the country". ([Cubaheute](#))