



GOLDEN EAGLE LUXURY TRAINS

VOYAGES OF A LIFETIME BY PRIVATE TRAIN™



WINTER WONDERLAND





GOLDEN EAGLE TRANS-SIBERIAN EXPRESS WINTER WONDERLAND

MOSCOW – VLADIMIR – SUZDAL – YEKATERINBURG – NOVOSIBIRSK – IRKUTSK – LAKE BAIKAL
ULAN UDE – ULAAN BAATAR – Khabarovsk (Westbound only) – Vladivostok



Our tours along the Trans-Siberian route in winter are an exceptional and unique experience. Undoubtedly the world's greatest railway journey, the Trans-Siberian Railway runs like a steel ribbon connecting east and west from Moscow over the Urals, across the magnificent Russian steppe and alongside the shore of the world's largest freshwater lake. This extraordinary engineering achievement is a vital link for all the communities that live in close proximity to the line – and to travel along this route is by far the best way to experience the grandeur of Russia's rarely visited interior.

Our special winter programme includes the opportunity to enjoy the iconic winter wonderland scenery by horse-drawn sleigh and the chance to watch ice fishing on Lake Baikal or take a dog-sledge or snowmobile on a captivating winter journey. The displays of ice sculptures at the shore side are a reminder of the constant sub-zero temperatures here.

To keep you warm in the Siberian winter when you are off the train, we provide complimentary hats, Russian traditional felt boots and gloves, specially designed to keep out the worst of the cold and they are yours to keep!

GOLDEN EAGLE TRANS-SIBERIAN EXPRESS

WINTER WONDERLAND



TOUR SCHEDULES

EASTBOUND 2014

February 23 – March 9

WESTBOUND 2014

March 7 – March 21

EASTBOUND 2015

February 22 – March 8

WESTBOUND 2015

March 6 – March 20

TOUR INCLUDES

1 night in Moscow | 12 nights onboard the *Golden Eagle* | 1 night in Vladivostok

DAILY TOUR ITINERARIES

EASTBOUND

Day 1 Arrive Moscow
Day 2 Moscow
Day 3 Vladimir & Suzdal
Day 4 Yekaterinburg
Day 5 Novosibirsk
Day 6 Onboard
Day 7 Irkutsk
Day 8 Lake Baikal
Day 9 Ulan Ude
Day 10 Ulaan Baatar
Day 11 Onboard
Day 12 Onboard
Day 13 Onboard
Day 14 Vladivostok
Day 15 Depart Vladivostok

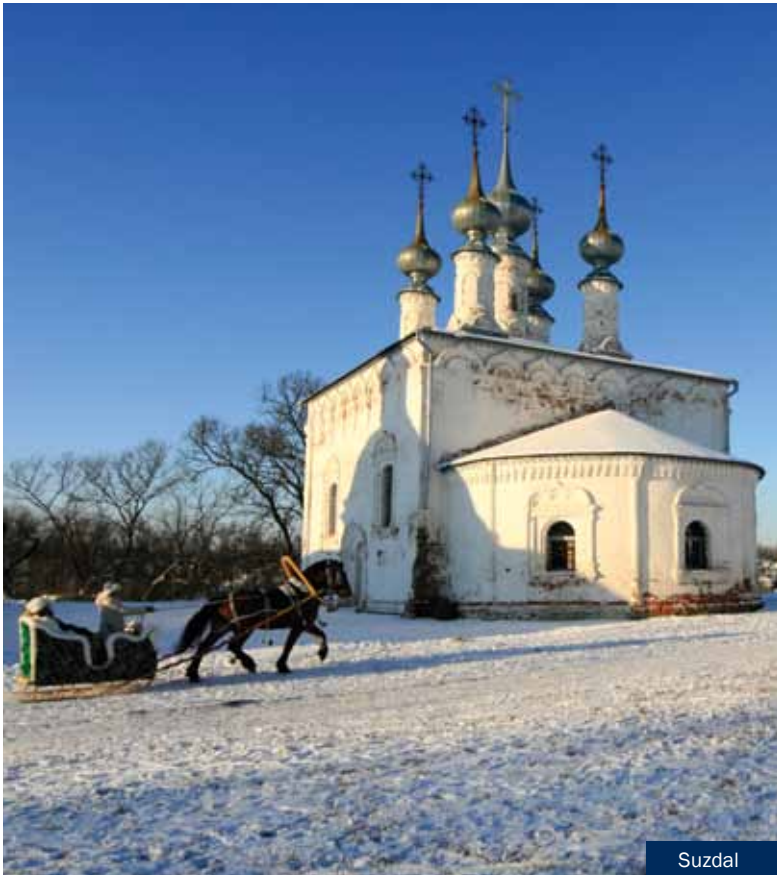
WESTBOUND

Day 1 Arrive Vladivostok
Day 2 Vladivostok
Day 3 Khabarovsk
Day 4 Onboard
Day 5 Onboard
Day 6 Ulaan Baatar
Day 7 Ulan Ude
Day 8 Lake Baikal
Day 9 Irkutsk
Day 10 Onboard
Day 11 Novosibirsk
Day 12 Yekaterinburg
Day 13 Vladimir & Suzdal
Day 14 Moscow (evening arrival)
Day 15 Depart Moscow

MOSCOW – VLADIMIR – SUZDAL – YEKATERINBURG – NOVOSIBIRSK – IRKUTSK – LAKE BAIKAL – ULAN UDE
ULAAN BAATAR – Khabarovsk (WESTBOUND ONLY) – VLADIVOSTOK



Port Baikal



Suzdal

“
*The scenery along the route
was captivating with snow
covered ground and frost
covered trees of varying colours
sparkling in the sunlight.*
”

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS



MOSCOW

0 KM | Москва

Time zone: Moscow time

Our touring programme of Moscow principally takes us to the grandeur of the Kremlin – the spiritual, historical and political heart of Moscow – and to see the treasures of the Tsars in the Armoury Chamber. We also visit Red Square, an iconic symbol of Russia’s former military and political might with its eclectic mix of fascinating architecture, such as the ornate St Basil’s Cathedral’s magnificent onion-domed spires, the beautiful façade of the world famous GUM department store, constructed in Tsarist times, and the sombre and evocative site of Lenin’s tomb.

With our *Freedom of Choice* touring options you may instead wish to visit the famous State Tretyakov Gallery (National Museum of Fine Art).

Included in our time spent in Moscow is one night at the five-star Marriott Royal Aurora, or similar. Located in Moscow city centre, and within walking distance of Red Square and the Bolshoi Theatre, this luxury hotel offers spacious accommodation with butler service for each guest room – the only hotel in Moscow to offer this fine service.

On the Westbound departure, due to an evening arrival on Day 14 the Moscow city tour will take place on Day 15. We

recommend you book your departure flight for after 4pm this day or extend your stay in Moscow with an additional night, and have time to take in a performance at the world-renowned Bolshoi Theatre. *Tickets need to be pre-booked and are subject to schedule and availability.*

VLADIMIR

193 KM | Владимир

Time zone: Moscow time

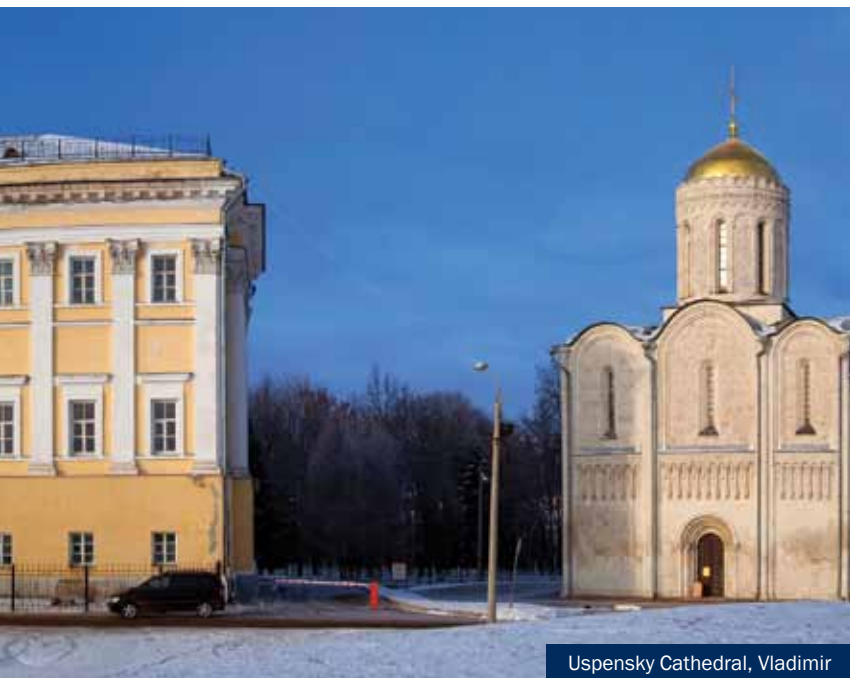
The historic city of Vladimir was founded in 990 and is one of Russia’s oldest communities with an architectural wealth. The whole city was decreed a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Our tour takes in Uspensky Cathedral, built between the 12th and 15th centuries. It is considered one of the most important and beautiful of Russian cathedrals, where many of the prominent Russian Tsars were crowned.

SUZDAL

Суздаль

Time zone: Moscow time

The pastoral town of Suzdal is one of Russia’s most perfectly preserved walled cities dating back to 1024 and is located 22 miles (35 kilometres) from Vladimir. Here we visit the atmospheric St. Euthymius Monastery to witness an enchanting choral performance by the resident monks.



Uspensky Cathedral, Vladimir



YEKATERINBURG

1816 KM | Екатеринбург

Time zone: Moscow time + 2 hours

Founded in 1723 by Peter the Great, Yekaterinburg is the capital of the Urals. Known as the Great Divide, the Ural Mountains create the natural border between Europe and Asia so that the cultural and architectural influences of European and Asian civilisations come together in this fascinating and cosmopolitan landscape.

Our city tour takes us to the poignant site where the Romanov, Tsar Nicholas II of Russia, was executed with his family by the Bolsheviks in 1918 following 78 days of imprisonment. Now a church dedicated to their memory, this site provides us with a powerful insight into the turmoil of the Russian Revolution.

NOVOSIBIRSK

3336 KM | Новосибирск

Time zone: Moscow time + 3 hours

A modern 'Soviet' city, we experience the life and character of Novosibirsk's rich culture where the arts and sciences predominate. The city is located in the heart of Russia and is situated on both banks of the River Ob. Our city tour takes us to Lenin Square where the imposing Opera House is located.

An architectural marvel, it houses two permanent ballet and opera companies and is one of the largest opera houses in the world. In front of the Opera House, we visit an impressive statue of Lenin – a marvellous opportunity to have your photograph taken with this iconic political leader. Alternatively, our *Freedom of Choice* tour goes south of the city to visit Novosibirsk's excellent Railway Museum, which displays locomotives and rolling stock from the late 1800s, including carriages of the Tsars, through to the Soviet era.

IRKUTSK

5185 KM | Иркутск

Time zone: Moscow time + 5 hours

Our visit to Irkutsk, the 'Paris of Siberia', takes in the most significant sites and museums in this fascinating city, including an exploration of the classic wooden architecture with its intricately carved lace-like decorations that has given many of this region's buildings such a distinctive and unique appearance. We also visit the Decembrist House museum which is dedicated to the memory of the aristocrats who were exiled to this remote outpost after the failed uprising of 1825, and we recreate the atmosphere of that time with a champagne reception and private concert.

Alternatively you may wish to visit a traditional Russian Banya (sauna) on our *Freedom of Choice* tour.



SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

- ✦ See the iconic Winter Wonderland scenery by horse-drawn sleigh
- ✦ Experience a traditional Russian Banya (sauna)
- ✦ Watch ice fishing at Lake Baikal
- ✦ Ride a dog-sledge or snowmobile
- ✦ See ice sculptures by the frozen Lake Baikal

LAKE BAIKAL

Озеро Байкал

Time zone: Moscow time + 5 hours

Our day by Lake Baikal offers a real highlight of travelling through Siberia in winter. Few natural sights can surpass the beauty and grandeur of Lake Baikal and today will be an unforgettable part of our Trans-Siberian journey.

For five hours we wind our way through tunnels along cliff hugging tracks above the frozen lake with a vista of snow-capped peaks along the far shore forming a picture-perfect backdrop. Completely frozen in winter, Lake Baikal is the deepest lake in the world and at this time of the year we will visit the shoreside Ice Festival to look at the many intricate works of ice art.



We are taken in a hovercraft on the frozen lake to the place where the ice fishing, dog sledges and snowmobiles are situated and you will enjoy the perfect vantage point to appreciate the magnificence of this unspoilt location.

There is the opportunity to watch the under-ice fishing and try the freshly caught fish which will be smoked in a mobile smokehouse and served warm with ice-cold vodka. Delicious!





ULAN UDE

5640 KM | Улан-Удэ

Time zone: Moscow time + 5 hours

The ethnic and cultural diversity of Ulan Ude offers a unique insight into its heritage. As we tour the area you will notice the different faces of these welcoming people. We will meet the people of the Old Believers' Village and have the opportunity to learn about the culture and history of these religious people. We are treated to a concert featuring local folk singers.

ULAAN BAATAR, MONGOLIA

Улан Батор

Time zone: Moscow time + 4 hours

Our Trans-Siberian adventure takes us into Mongolia and a visit to its capital, Ulaan Baatar. Mongolia, once the very centre of an enormous empire led by Genghis Khan, is a country of beautiful landscapes, nomadic people and rich in culture and history. Mongolia is famous for its endless green Steppes, grazing livestock and white, nomadic Gers (Yurts) dotted all across the countryside.

We start the tour at Gandan Monastery, one of Mongolia's most important Buddhist Monasteries housing a community of over 500 monks. The full name, Gandantegchinlen, translates as 'the great place of complete joy'. At Sukhbaatar Square we can see the central monument to Genghis Khan, undoubtedly the most feared and revered Mongol and visit the National Museum where we learn about the country's intriguing history. We also have the opportunity to visit a traditional Ger and meet a nomadic family.

DAYS ONBOARD THE GOLDEN EAGLE

Each Trans-Siberian departure has a number of days onboard the *Golden Eagle*. These days offer the opportunity to unwind and reflect on the many sights and sounds we have experienced or are about to experience on our rail journey so far.

Chat to your fellow passengers, take a Russian language class, listen to a talk on Soviet or Russian history, learn about the construction of the Trans-Siberian railway or simply relax and enjoy the ever-changing landscape outside your window as it unfolds.

KHABAROVSK

WESTBOUND ONLY

8523 KM | Хабаровск

Time zone: Moscow time + 7 hours

Located 15 miles (25 kilometres) from the border with China, Khabarovsk stretches along the banks of the Amur River. Khabarovsk was founded as a military post in 1858, but the region had been populated by several indigenous peoples of the Far East for many centuries. It is now a busy city with tree-lined streets.

We'll visit the memorial to Yerofey Pavlovich Khabarov, the Far East explorer the city is named after, and the impressive World War Two memorial to the fallen soldiers. We will also have time at the Regional Museum where the local history has been well-preserved with a rich collection of artefacts describing the cultural and natural history of the region.

VLADIVOSTOK

9288 KM | Владивосток

Time zone: Moscow time + 7 hours

Vladivostok is a military port, located on the western shores of the Sea of Japan and is home to the Russian Navy's Pacific Fleet. Due to its military importance, the city was closed to foreigners between 1930 and 1992. Vladivostok (literally translated as 'Ruler of the East') offers visitors an interesting opportunity to explore its principal military attractions including a visit to a preserved World War Two submarine. Our city tour will also take us to the iconic suspension bridge over Golden Horn Bay, one of the largest of its kind worldwide, which opened in 2012 for the APEC conference.

Our hotel in Vladivostok, where we stay for one night, is the four-star Hotel Hyundai.

Please note that our Winter Wonderland tours always operate as small group departures (normally less than 20 guests, compared to 100 on summer departures). Reduced numbers mean more intimate groups and a shorter formation of Golden Eagle sleepers with a combined bar/restaurant appropriate to the number of guests. Russian Railways attach our carriages to the rear of a regular train each day however your onboard experience will be unaffected, there being no connection between our carriages and the main train.