



LEGENDARY SILK ROAD FROM TASHKENT

ORIENT SILK ROAD EXPRESS



★ ITINERARY PAGE 4

★ PRICING & INCLUSIONS PAGE 26



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ABOUT OUR COMPANY

Established as one of the leading, independent and family owned luxury train specialists, our focus is on well thought through private and personally selected rail adventures. Our emphasis is very much on the right trip for you and we work closely with you in order to achieve this. We regard the rail journeys we offer as a trip of a lifetime and use our experience and knowledge to make it that for you.

The Luxury Train Travel Company is a trading name of Headseast Ltd, a UK based, independent, family owned travel company. We operate several brands in addition to The Luxury Train Travel Company including [“The Latin America Travel Company”](#) [“The Trans-Siberian Travel Company”](#) and [“The China Travel Company”](#). Our clients come from all over the world.



THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD FROM TASHKENT

Dear Sir / Madam,

Please find full details of this itinerary in this dossier. If you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

The Luxury Train Travel Company.

THE LUXURY TRAIN TRAVEL COMPANY

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TASHKENT •
KHIVA •
BUKHARA •
DUSHANBE •
SAMARKAND •
BISHKEK •
ALMATY •



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD FROM TASHKENT

- ✓ Enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime Central Asian adventure, featuring 7 breathtaking UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- ✓ Relax in the comfort of your own private train, in a region usually limited to long, uncomfortable bus rides.
- ✓ Get insights into local way of life: a traditional folk performance, lunch with an Uzbek family.
- ✓ Have lunch in the king's former Summer Palace.
- ✓ Discover the winding streets and market life of Khiva and Bukhara.
- ✓ Marvel at enchanting backstreets, immense city gates, glittering domes, and ancient city walls.
- ✓ Bask in the desert sun in Registan Square, the most beautiful square in Central Asia.

14 DAYS / 13 NIGHTS STARTING TASHKENT



DETAILED ITINERARY

The following pages detail your itinerary day by day. All our trips are tried and tested and, between us, we have visited most destinations and accommodation. We like to offer our clients the greatest flexibility possible with their trip so if there are any pre or post tour experiences you'd like to add please do not hesitate to contact us.

"I can't tell you how much we appreciate all the pre planning you helped us with.

It was a trip of a lifetime experienced by few. Personally I feel privileged to have experienced this part of the world.

Thanks again for all you did for us."

Gail & Cathy Schuneman



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1

TASHKENT

START YOUR TRIP IN THE CAPITAL OF UZBEKISTAN

Depending on your flight connection, arrival in Tashkent during the day and transfer to your centrally located hotel. Your room is ready for check-in around 3pm.

Note: If extra nights are required pre-trip we recommend asking us to book them through the train operator as they do not confirm the actual hotels until around 6 weeks before the start of the trip.

Did you know? Tashkent reflects a diverse cultural tapestry, with a population comprising Uzbek, Russian, Tajik, Kazakh, and Tatar communities, among others. This diversity is celebrated in the city's food, language, and cultural festivals, making it a melting pot of Central Asian cultures.

 **Meals Included:** None Today.

OVERNIGHT

CROWNE PLAZA TASHKENT



Upscale hotel located in the heart of Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Spacious rooms and suites with two on-site restaurants.



*Hotel shown for guidance only with exact hotels not finalised until 6 weeks before the trip start date.

YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 2

TASHKENT

START YOUR TRIP THIS AFTERNOON WITH TOUR IN TASHKENT

After a morning of relaxation, you will meet your tour guides and fellow travellers in the afternoon.

Note: Some passengers may arrive early this morning depending on their flight connections. If you do arrive early today your room and breakfast will be ready for you.

An impressive start of your trip is offered with a city tour of Kukeldash Madrasah, the Kavoj and Amir-Timur monuments, and the typical clay houses.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

CROWNE PLAZA TASHKENT



Upscale hotel located in the heart of Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Spacious rooms and suites with two on-site restaurants.



*Hotel shown for guidance only with exact hotels not finalised until 6 weeks before the trip start date.

YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 3

TASHKENT

CONTINUE TO EXPLORE TASHKENT & SURROUNDS

After breakfast in the morning, you will make your way through the narrow valleys of the Chimgan Mountains to the Amirsoy Mountain Resort. Afterwards, take the cable car and enjoy a fantastic view. After enjoying your lunch with a view, your drive continues to the Charvak reservoir with a photo stop before heading back to Tashkent.

In the afternoon, your journey with the special train begins. A welcome drink and a short lecture await you on board.

The Orient Silk Road Express is a private train designed to recreate the opulent experience of ancient Silk Road traders. It offers comfortable sleeping cabins, lavish dining cars, and lounge areas, providing modern amenities while passengers traverse the storied landscapes of Central Asia, exploring rich historical sites and vibrant cultures from the comfort of a luxury train.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT



TASHKENT - KHIVA

Your first night on the train takes you West to one of Central Asia's most enigmatic cities - the desert oasis town of Khiva.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS JOURNEY

KHIVA



KHIVA



KHIVA



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 4

KHIVA

VISIT THIS LEGENDARY DESERT OASIS

Today, visit the Khiva Oasis, from one of the best-known fairy tales from 1001 Nights. Standing in front of the mighty city wall of Khiva with its gates and bastions of clay bricks, you will think you've been transported to another world: Around the Kalta Minor Minaret, life still pulsates today just as it did in ancient times.

During a walking tour you can enjoy all the sights: Palaces, mosques, minarets, mausoleums and madrasas form one of the best-preserved ensembles of medieval Middle Eastern town planning.

Did you know? One of Khiva's most iconic landmarks is the Kalta Minor Minaret, renowned for its short stature and broad, ornate base. It was intended to be the tallest minaret in Central Asia, but construction halted after the death of its initiator, Mohammed Amin Khan, leaving it at just 29 meters of the planned 70-plus meters.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT



KHIVA - BUKHARA

Continue across the desert to one of Central Asia's most architecturally stunning cities - the once mighty Bukhara.



DAY 5

BUKHARA

THE ARCHITECTURAL TREAT OF UZBEKISTAN

Located in the middle of the Kyzylkum Desert, Bukhara has about one thousand monuments that recall the glory days of the Great Silk Road. In the old town you can see the almost 50 m high Kalyan minaret and the Lab-i Hauz ensemble at the pond. In front of the Nasreddin monument listen to some of his stories and legends.

In the courtyard of a madrasa, you will experience a folklore show with music, local dances and a presentation of colourful national costumes. Overnight at a mid-range hotel in Bukhara.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

OMAR KHAYYAM HOTEL



The centrally located Omar Khayyam Hotel has a garden, terrace, a restaurant and bar in Bukhara making it a good mid-range option.



*Hotel shown for guidance only with exact hotels not finalised until 6 weeks before the trip start date.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS JOURNEY

LIFE ON BOARD



LIFE ON BOARD



LIFE ON BOARD



DAY 6

BUKHARA

CONTINUE TO EXPLORE THIS QUINTESSENTIAL SILK ROAD CITY

Today, you explore Bukhara during a full-day tour. The entire city seems like a large, unique, and authentic architectural museum that has retained its old Middle Eastern countenance.

In the morning we will take you to the magnificent Mir-i-Arab and the most valuable building in Central Asia, the Samanid Mausoleum. Then take a tour through the mighty fortress of Ark, a city in the city that was once the seat of government of the rulers of Bukhara.

Did you know? The Poi Kalon Architectural Complex is one of the iconic landmarks of Bukhara, consisting of the Kalon Minaret, Kalon Mosque, and Mir-i-Arab Madrasah. The Kalon Minaret, also known as the "Tower of Death," was used historically as an execution method, where condemned prisoners were thrown from the top.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT



BUKHARA - KHIVA

As you continue north the landscape flattens out and becomes increasingly barren as you reach the desert oasis town of Khiva.



DAY 7

SHAKHRISABZ

JOURNEY THROUGH THE HISTORY OF CENTRAL ASIA

After breakfast, your special train will continue on its way. Today, you will see a folklore show of the unique tradition of this region that seems to have fallen out of time. Afterwards you will go to Shakhrisabz in the birthplace of Timur. In the evening, you travel with the special train to Dushanbe.

Did you know? Shahrissabz is famously known as the birthplace of Timur (Tamerlane), the 14th-century conqueror and founder of the Timurid Empire. The city holds significant historical importance due to its connection with Timur, who ordered the construction of many of the city's monumental buildings.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT



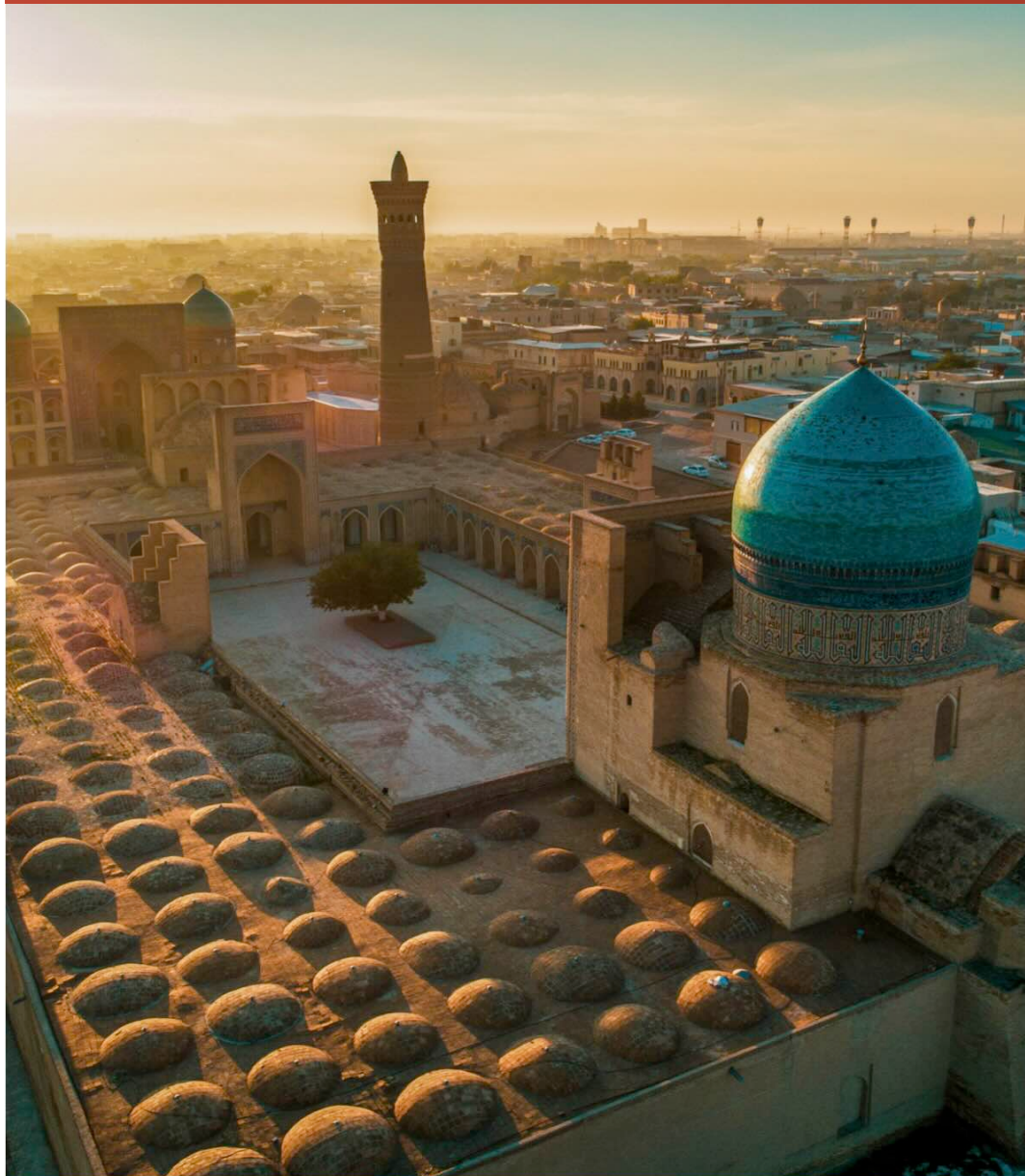
SHAKHRISABZ - DUSHANBE

Continue through plains towards increasingly mountainous terrain on the way to the capital of Tajikistan - Dushanbe.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS JOURNEY

BUKHARA



BUKHARA



BUKHARA



DAY 8

DUSHANBE

ARRIVE IN & EXPLORE THE CAPITAL OF TAJIKISTAN

After arriving in Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan, in the morning, you will discover numerous sights on a tour. Among the many parks in the city, a visit to Rudaki Park is a great way to relax in the countryside.

In the late afternoon you will return to your special train and head towards Samarkand.

Did you know? The name "Dushanbe" means "Monday" in Tajik, reflecting the city's origins as a small village that hosted a popular market every Monday. It wasn't until the 20th century that Dushanbe evolved from a small village into the major city and capital it is today.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT



DUSHANBE - SAMARKAND

Continue through plains towards increasingly mountainous terrain and to the silk road city of Samarkand.



DAY 9

SAMARKAND

EXPLORE THIS CROSSROAD OF CULTURE - A HIGHLIGHT OF UZBEKISTAN

Today, you will experience the sights of this renowned and historic site, which was known under the rule of Timur as the most beautiful and important city in the world: the burial town of Shah-i-Zinda ("The Living King"), the excavation sites of Afrasiyab (with museum tour) and Registan Square were certainly the most impressive construction ensemble in Central Asia.

Registan Square is surrounded by three mighty madrasas. The huge and magnificent portals impressive in terms of decoration and colour.

In the background, the domes of the mosques glitter like in the Middle Eastern fairy tale. In 1917, the women of Uzbekistan burned their face veils at this historic site and embarked on a new era.

Here in Samarkand you will spend the next two nights in a mid-range hotel.

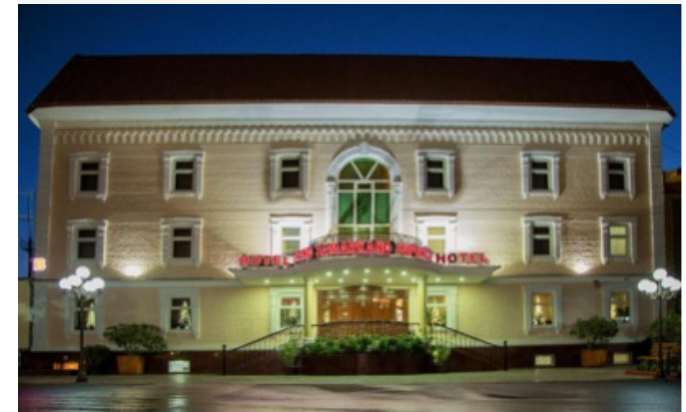
 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

GRAND SAMARKAND



Set in the heart of Samarkand, this comfortable hotel offers Uzbek and European cuisine, a garden and free Wi-Fi in public areas.



*Hotel shown for guidance only with exact hotels not finalised until 6 weeks before the trip start date.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS JOURNEY

SAMARKAND



SAMARKAND



DUSHANBE



DAY 10

SAMARKAND

VISIT MORE OF THE CITY'S HISTORICAL & CULTURAL TREATS

Today, you visit a silk carpet manufactory and a Uzbek artisan family that makes paper from mulberry tree bark, you will see the Ulugh Beg Observatory and the ruins of the Bibi-Khanym Mosque. The palace-like Gur-i-Amir mausoleum complex can be visited from the inside. It houses the tomb of Timur, who made his capital a paradise as a famous builder, but also went down in history as a feared conqueror.

Did you know? In the 14th century, the conqueror Tamerlane (Timur) made Samarkand the capital of his vast empire. Under his rule, the city flourished as a centre of learning and culture, attracting artisans and scholars from across Eurasia to contribute to its grandeur.

The Ulugh Beg Observatory in Samarkand was one of the most advanced astronomical observatories in the Islamic world. Built in the 15th century by the ruler and scientist Ulugh Beg, it was equipped to observe the stars and contributed significantly to the medieval understanding of astronomy.

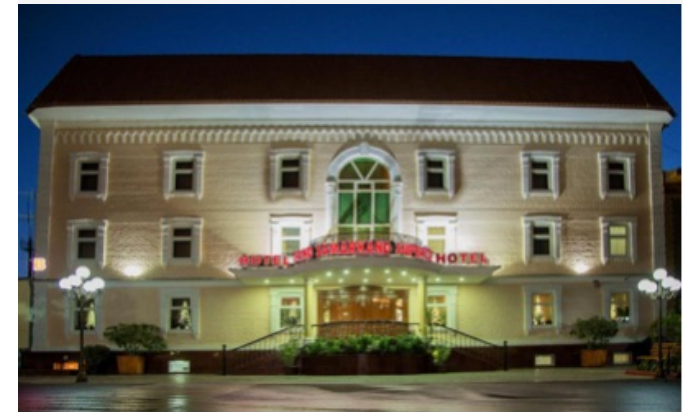
 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

GRAND SAMARKAND



Set in the heart of Samarkand, this comfortable hotel offers Uzbek and European cuisine, a garden and free Wi-Fi in public areas.



*Hotel shown for guidance only with exact hotels not finalised until 6 weeks before the trip start date.

DAY 11

ON THE TRAIN

JOURNEY THROUGH THE HISTORY OF CENTRAL ASIA

After breakfast, your special train will make its way to Kyrgyzstan. You spend the day relaxing with lectures on board. Enjoy this relaxed day and look forward to the next station!

Rail travel in Central Asia began in the late 19th century during the Russian Empire's expansion. The first significant line, the Trans-Caspian Railway, was completed in the 1880s, connecting the Caspian Sea to Samarkand and later to Tashkent, fostering regional connectivity and Russian control.

Under Soviet rule, the network expanded, linking major cities across Central Asian republics and facilitating economic integration and resource distribution. Post-Soviet independence saw nationalisation and further development of these networks.

Today, rail remains vital for trade and travel across Central Asia, with modern projects enhancing connections within the region and beyond, notably into China and Europe.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT



SAMARKAND - BISHKEK

This train leg takes you on to the capital of Kyrgyzstan of Bishkek after a day spent at Issyk Kul Lake.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS JOURNEY

LIFE ON BOARD



LIFE ON BOARD



LIFE ON BOARD



DAY 12

BISHKEK

EXPLORE THE CAPITAL OF KYRGYZSTAN

After breakfast on board you will reach the Kyrgyz capital Bishkek. On a tour, you will discover their numerous sights. With about 100m² of green space per inhabitant, Bishkek is one of the greenest cities in the world! And of course the Ala-Archa National Park is also part of the programme. You spend the night in a comfort hotel in Bishkek.

Did you know? Bishkek showcases a strong Soviet architectural influence, reflected in its wide boulevards and extensive use of marble in public spaces. Many buildings, including government offices and cultural institutions, exhibit the grand, blocky style typical of mid-20th century Soviet architecture. Bishkek started as a fort built in 1825 by the Uzbek Khan of Kokand. Its original purpose was to control local caravan routes and to collect tribute from Silk Road traders. The fort was captured by the Russians in 1862, which marked the beginning of significant Russian influence in the area.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

PLAZA HOTEL BISHKEK



In a leafy area this polished hotel has a restaurant, bar and a terrace. A spa has an indoor pool, a sauna and a gym.



*Hotel shown for guidance only with exact hotels not finalised until 6 weeks before the trip start date.

DAY 13

ISSYK KUL LAKE

TRAIN ACROSS THE STEPPE & VISIT THIS STUNNING LAKE

After breakfast, your special train makes its way to the breathtaking Issyk Kul Lake. A visit to the Center of Nomadic Culture will bring you closer before you have time for a walk, or perhaps a small swim in the Issyk Kul. After a boat trip on the Issyk Kul, your train makes its way to Almaty.

Did you know? Issyk-Kul is the second largest saline lake in the world, after the Caspian Sea, measuring about 182 kilometres (113 miles) long and 60 kilometres (37 miles) wide. Despite being surrounded by snow-capped mountains and located at an altitude of over 1,600 meters (5,249 feet), Issyk-Kul never freezes. This is due to its slight salinity and the geothermal activity beneath its surface, which keeps the water relatively warm.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT



ISSYK KUL LAKE - ALMATY

The last leg of this epic Central Asian adventure takes you from Issyk Kul Lake to Almaty, the former capital of Kazakhstan.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS JOURNEY

ISSYK KUL



ALMATY



BISHKEK



DAY 14

ALMATY

EXPLORE THE CITY KNOWN AS "THE FATHER OF THE APPLE"

Arrival after lunch. Get to know this beautiful city on a city tour with Russian Orthodox wooden cathedral, wedding palace, circus, and central mosque.

Farewell dinner will be served at a local yurt restaurant before spending a last short night at the hotel.

Did you know? Almaty derives its name from "alma," which means "apple" in Kazakh. The region is believed to be the ancestral home of the apple, and the wild apple species *Malus sieversii* is native to the surrounding area. This lends the city the nickname "City of Apples."

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

RAHAT PALACE HOTEL



A large well appointed hotel in Almaty with friendly staff and very good facilities including a pool. Nice lobby bar and beer garden.



*Hotel shown for guidance only with exact hotels not finalised until 6 weeks before the trip start date.

DAY 15

END OF TOUR

YOUR JOURNEY WITH US ENDS

After breakfast free time until a transfer to the airport for your flight out of Kazakhstan leaving the wide blue skies, the open steppe, and epic monuments behind you, laden with unparalleled memories of the Silk Road.

Note: If extra nights are required post-trip we recommend asking us to book them through the train operator as they do not confirm the actual hotels until around 6 weeks before the start of the trip.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast.



Josie Dawson & Friends

"We had the best time, with plenty of laughs, trying to learn the languages, we loved the Train ride, so many amazing sights, sounds and people.

You were always so helpful and prompt in sending us your replies."

2026 Spring

LEGENDARY SILK ROAD FROM TASHKENT - SPRING DATES & PRICES PER PERSON IN GBP

Starts in Tashkent on the 26th March 2026 and finishes in Almaty on the 9th April 2026 - Guided in: English • French • German

* All Dates Subject To Availability - Many Trips Sell Out Long In Advance *

CABIN	HABIBI (4 BERTH*)	ALI BABA	ALADDIN	KALIF
TWIN SHARE	£ 3,740*	£ 5,740	£ 6,380	£ 10,650
SINGLE	£ N/A*	£ 7,520	£ 8,590	£ 15,690

*Based on 4 people sharing a cabin. If there are 3 people in a 4 berth cabin then the price is £ 4,600 per person. Single supplement for hotels only is £ 545 per person.

** The prices for this tour are as listed below in GB Pounds. We can quote and accept payment in US Dollars, Singaporean Dollars, Australian Dollars, Canadian Dollars and more. **Contact us** for a confirmed quote in your preferred currency.

2026 Autumn

LEGENDARY SILK ROAD FROM TASHKENT - AUTUMN DATES & PRICES PER PERSON IN GBP

Starts in Tashkent on the 1st October 2026 and finishes in Almaty on the 15th October 2026 - Guided in: English • French • German

* All Dates Subject To Availability - Many Trips Sell Out Long In Advance *

CABIN	HABIBI (4 BERTH*)	ALI BABA	ALADDIN	KALIF
TWIN SHARE	£ 4,080*	£ 6,090	£ 6,730	£ 10,990
SINGLE	£ N/A*	£ 7,960	£ 8,980	£ 16,040

*Based on 4 people sharing a cabin. If there are 3 people in a 4 berth cabin then the price is £ 4,950 per person. Single supplement for hotels only is £ 570 per person.

** The prices for this tour are as listed below in GB Pounds. We can quote and accept payment in US Dollars, Singaporean Dollars, Australian Dollars, Canadian Dollars and more. **Contact us** for a confirmed quote in your preferred currency.

2027 Spring

LEGENDARY SILK ROAD FROM TASHKENT - SPRING DATES & PRICES PER PERSON IN GBP

Starts in Tashkent on the 1st April 2027 and finishes in Almaty on the 15th April 2027 - Guided in: English • French • German

* All Dates Subject To Availability - Many Trips Sell Out Long In Advance *

CABIN	HABIBI (4 BERTH*)	ALI BABA	ALADDIN	KALIF
TWIN SHARE	£ 3,900*	£ 5,910	£ 6,550	£ 10,850
SINGLE	£ N/A*	£ 7,780	£ 8,000	£ 15,900

*Based on 4 people sharing a cabin. If there are 3 people in a 4 berth cabin then the price is £ 4,770 per person. Single supplement for hotels only is £ 585 per person.

** The prices for this tour are as listed below in GB Pounds. We can quote and accept payment in US Dollars, Singaporean Dollars, Australian Dollars, Canadian Dollars and more. **Contact us** for a confirmed quote in your preferred currency.

2027 Autumn

LEGENDARY SILK ROAD FROM TASHKENT - AUTUMN DATES & PRICES PER PERSON IN GBP

Starts in Tashkent on the 30th September 2027 and finishes in Almaty on the 14th October 2027 - Guided in: English • French • German

* All Dates Subject To Availability - Many Trips Sell Out Long In Advance *

CABIN	HABIBI (4 BERTH*)	ALI BABA	ALADDIN	KALIF
TWIN SHARE	£ 4,260*	£ 6,340	£ 7,015	£ 11,510
SINGLE	£ N/A*	£ 8,280	£ 9,355	£ 16,790

*Based on 4 people sharing a cabin. If there are 3 people in a 4 berth cabin then the price is £ 5,160 per person. Single supplement for hotels only is £ 610 per person.

** The prices for this tour are as listed below in GB Pounds. We can quote and accept payment in US Dollars, Singaporean Dollars, Australian Dollars, Canadian Dollars and more. **Contact us** for a confirmed quote in your preferred currency.

2028 SPRING

LEGENDARY SILK ROAD FROM TASHKENT - AUTUMN DATES & PRICES PER PERSON IN GBP

Starts in Tashkent on the 30th March 2028 and finishes in Almaty on the 13th April 2028 - Guided in: English • French • German

* All Dates Subject To Availability - Many Trips Sell Out Long In Advance *

CABIN	HABIBI (4 BERTH*)	ALI BABA	ALADDIN	KALIF
TWIN SHARE	£ 4,075*	£ 6,175	£ 6,840	£ 11,320
SINGLE	£ N/A*	£ 8,115	£ 9,180	£ 16,590

*Based on 4 people sharing a cabin. If there are 3 people in a 4 berth cabin then the price is £ 4,975 per person. Single supplement for hotels only is £ 610 per person.

** The prices for this tour are as listed below in GB Pounds. We can quote and accept payment in US Dollars, Singaporean Dollars, Australian Dollars, Canadian Dollars and more. **Contact us** for a confirmed quote in your preferred currency.

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- ✓ 7 nights on an your private train
- ✓ 7 nights in first-class hotels
- ✓ English-speaking guide throughout journey
- ✓ Doctor on board
- ✓ All excursions and sights according to itinerary, including entry fees
- ✓ All transport and bus tours according to itinerary
- ✓ All meals according to itinerary
- ✓ Porters and luggage service at all railroad stations
- ✓ Fun and informative talks about local lands, people and culture
- ✓ A booklet on the region and the train itself for each reserved compartment

NOT INCLUDED IN THIS TOUR

- ✗ International Airfare to the start and from the finish of this trip
- ✗ Visas (ask us for advise about these).
- ✗ Travel insurance to cover any medical treatment.
- ✗ Discretionary gratuities to drivers and guides.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The tour may be cancelled if the minimum number of participants required for a trip is not met. It is rare this happens and if it does you will be offered a date / trip change or refund of the deposit (any decision is taken outside 60 days before the trip start date). Note there may be no refund for additional services such as flights or other travel arrangements you have made separately.
- We require all clients to take out travel / trip cancellation and to have valid medical insurance for all our trips.
- Due to the intricate logistics of this tour, itinerary changes are sometimes unavoidable.
- On booking a **non-refundable deposit** of 20% of the total tour price plus any international flights we are booking for you. Full payment is required 90 days before the trip start date.
- International flights, tips, beverages, visa fees and any services not mentioned are not included in the price.
- **Cancellation conditions:**
 - 92 or more days prior to departure: 20% of total price
 - 91 to 42 days prior to departure: 45% of total price
 - 41 to 11 days prior to departure: 80% of total price
 - 10 and less days prior to departure: 90% of total price
 - Any part of the program that is missed because of late arrival is non-refundable.

WHY BOOK THROUGH US ?

EXPERIENCE ✓

We have been arranging luxury train tours since 2008 and have long relationships with key providers.

PRICE PROMISE ✓

In most cases we will offer to match any bona fide, like for like quote for your trip from another agent or operator.

INDEPENDENT ADVICE ✓

We give open and impartial advice and it is important to us that you book the right rail trip for you.

PEACE OF MIND ✓

We are members of ABTA and most trips are protected by our IPP cover and ATOL bonding.



"I just wanted to say thank you for organising our wonderful holiday. All went smoothly and we were well taken care of. Thank you for the seamless organisation."

Kristopher Forbes



"The trip was great. Everything was smooth. This was very important to me as a solo female traveller. I felt safe and secure at all times. It was a well-balanced and organised trip. I really appreciated the effort that went into the trip."

Sarah Orozco



"You are amazing! Thank you so much for the fast response to my initial email, and the rapid answer to any questions I had, no matter how stupid they were! Your organisation was a great choice for me... I would highly recommend it."

Rachael Klein



"The booking process was very efficient. We appreciate you answered all our questions and presented a good plan. The trip itself was a wonderful old world Africa experience on the train – loved it."

Paige & Hugh Christensen



"It was the best trip we've ever taken! It was amazing! I cannot say enough about it. The ease of train travel, and guides were all pleasant surprises."

Lawrence & Conner Dudley



"We appreciated how easy it was to talk with you on the phone, person-to-person. This was very helpful. It's nice to meet people with similar interests and goals. We thank you and your company for everything you did to create a memorable train experience."

Bethany Leblanc



"You made booking flights and everything else very simple. You always provided excellent service, and responded to our inquiries promptly. Thanks for your attention to detail towards your customers."

Tania & Arthur Lindsey



"I can't tell you how much we appreciate all the pre planning you helped us with. Thanks again for all you did for us."

Gail & Cathy

KALIF CABINS



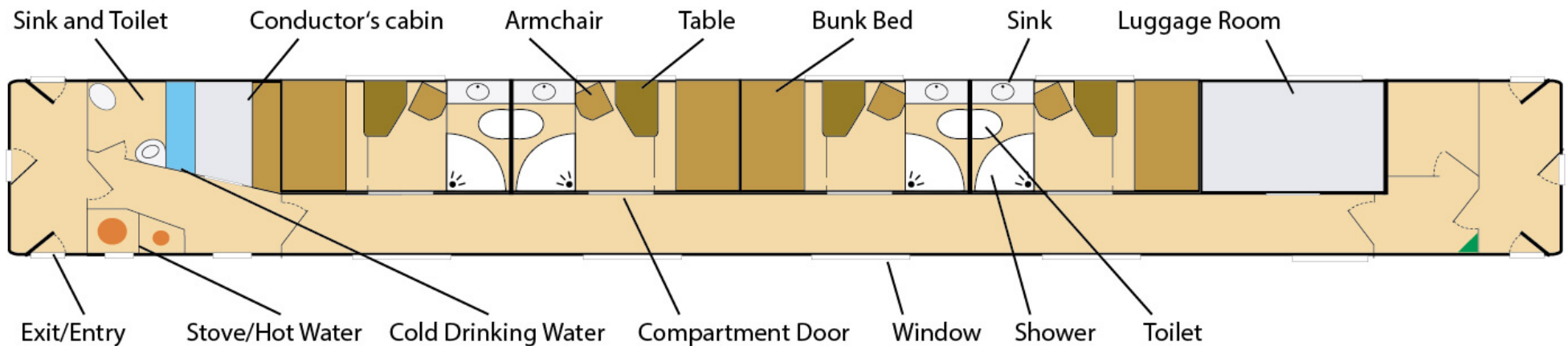
THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD TRAIN CABIN CLASSES

KALIF CABINS

The Orient Silk Road Express' grandest accommodation. The Kalif category features two beds, upper and lower (31.6 × 68.5 in/80 × 174 cm and 44 × 72.4 in/ 112 × 184 cm).

Each compartment includes a closet, safe and private bathroom with a separate shower cabin. Each car in this category is limited to four compartments and a maximum of just eight guests.

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin.



SULTAN CABINS



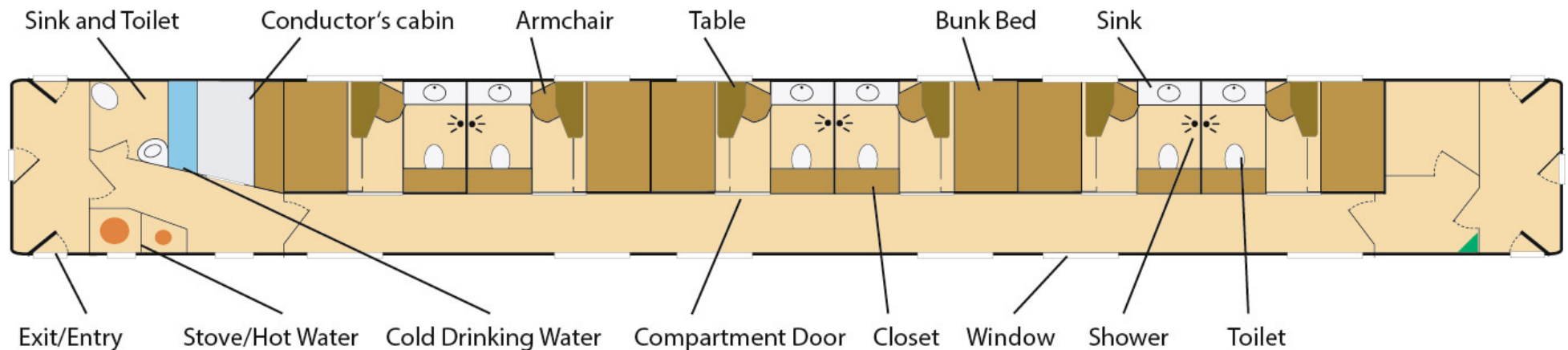
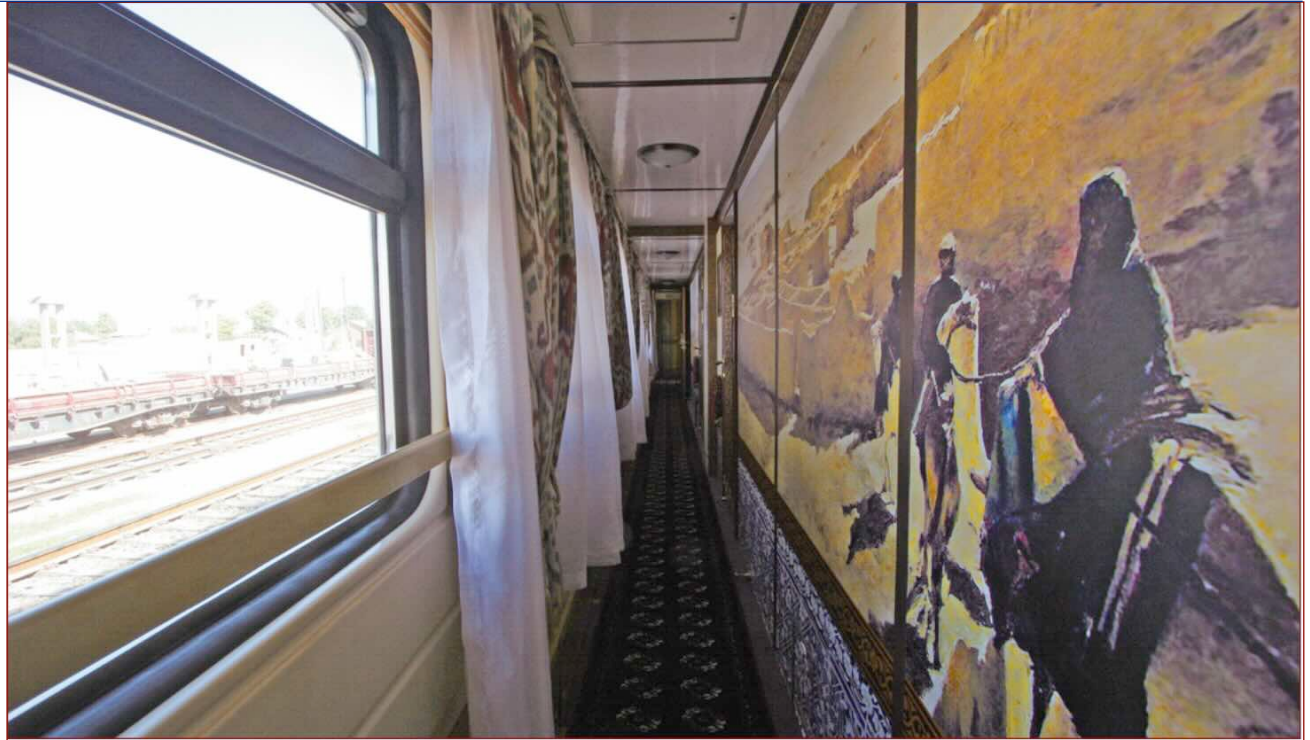
THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD TRAIN CABIN CLASSES

SULTAN CABINS

This category features two beds, upper and lower (31.6 × 68.5 in/80 × 174 cm and 43.3 × 72.4 in/110 × 184 cm) These compartments also offer comfortable seating, a larger table and a small closet.

Each room has its own private bathroom, complete with integrated shower. The cars in this category are comprised of just six compartments.

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin.



ALADDIN CABINS

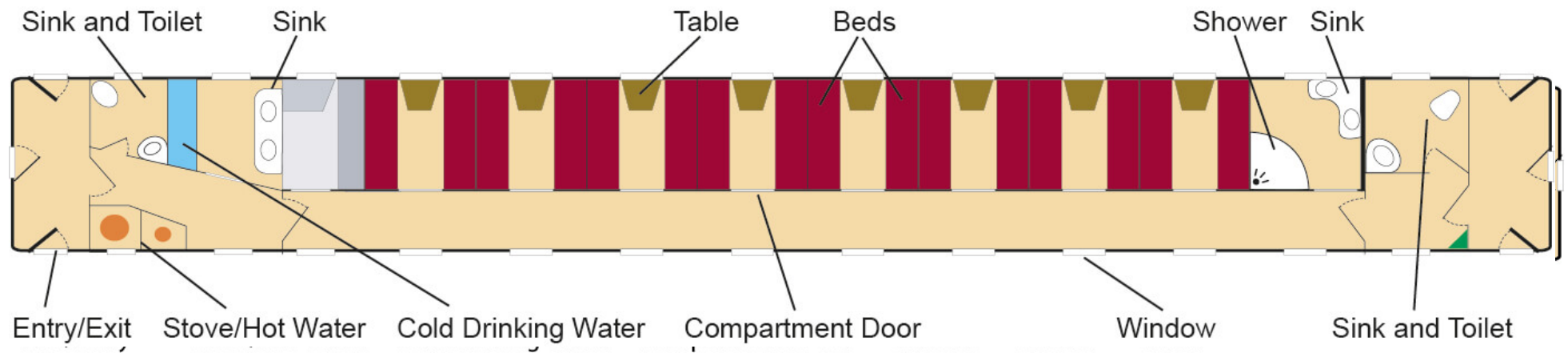


THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD TRAIN CABIN CLASSES

ALADDIN CABINS

This category features two lower beds (27.5 × 74.8 in/67 × 184 cm each), a small table and storage space. Each car has eight compartments and a shower, together with washroom facilities at both ends. Guests in this category also receive one bathrobe per compartment.

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin.

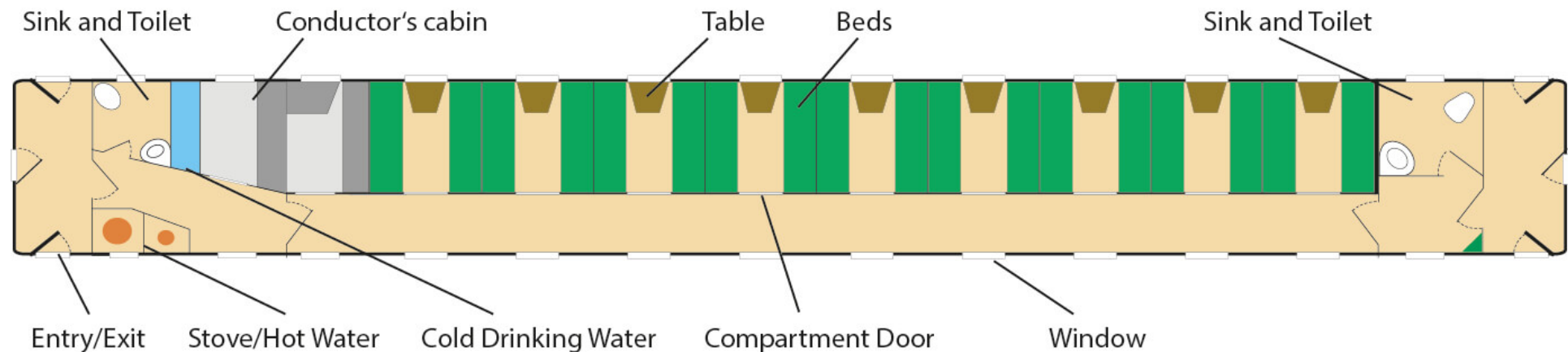


THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD TRAIN CABIN CLASSES

ALI BABA CABINS

This compartment has two lower berths (27.5 × 74.8 in/67 × 184 cm each), as well as a table and additional storage space. Each car has nine compartments, with washroom facilities at both ends.

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin.

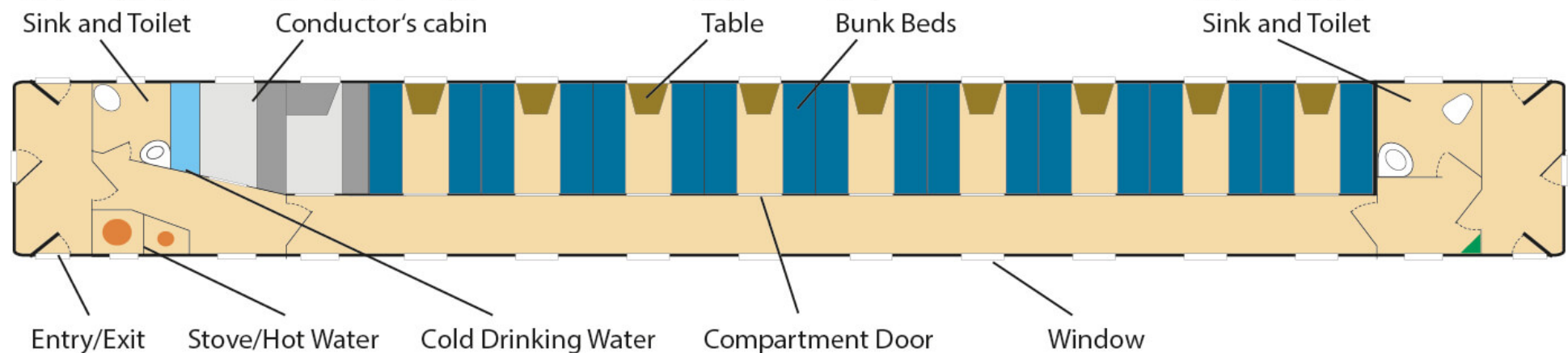


THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD TRAIN CABIN CLASSES

HABIBI CABINS

This compartment has sleeping berths (26.4 × 72.4 in / 67 × 184cm) for up to four guests. A table near the window separates lower and upper berths on either side. Each car has nine compartments, with washroom facilities at both ends.

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin.



USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOUR

HOW FAR IN ADVANCE DO I NEED TO BOOK ?

This train tour is an exclusive trip with very limited departures through the year. Consequently we strongly advise our clients to book as far in advance as possible to avoid disappointment. This particularly applies to the higher level cabins which there is strong demand for.

CAN YOU OBTAIN & ADVISE ON THE VISAS FOR US ?

Visas (if required) can be quite complex so we recommend using a specialist visa agent and have an arrangement with [CIBT Visa Central](#) who offer a reliable service for all the visas you will need for your trip. Of course, we provide all the necessary documentation which must accompany your application.

ARE YOUR TOURS FINANCIALLY PROTECTED ?

Trips sold as packages to UK clients come with financial protection either through our ATOL if the trip includes a flight or insurances which comply with the UK package travel regulations for any trip that does not include a flight. In addition our ABTA membership means we must adhere to their strict code of conduct. Trips sold by us as an agent for train operator do not come with financial protection as even in the event of our insolvency your booking with the train operator would still exist and be honoured.

CAN YOU BOOK INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS FOR US ?

Absolutely! Our ATOL license means that we can book international or indeed internal flights. We get particularly good access to the best deals on British Airways as we are an appointed operator. Just let us know which airports you want to fly from or to and we will be more than happy to give a quote.

IS THIS REGION SAFE TO TRAVEL IN ?

Many years back it had something of reputation but those times are long gone and the trip is now safe and trouble free for the vast majority of people. Your train is a private train so access is tightly controlled and our guides have your safety foremost in their minds throughout your trip with us.

CAN YOU BOOK FURTHER TRAVEL FOR US ?

Yes! We can offer excellent Moscow and St Petersburg programs as well as Trans-Siberian across Russia or to China. We also offer further rail adventures in Central Asia. Just ask us for details.

DO THE TRAINS HAVE PLUGS FOR RECHARGING?

The sockets in the train are standard two-pole Euro-plug sockets, but they are sometimes different in the hotels. If you want to be absolutely sure, you should bring along an Eastern European plug adaptor and one for China too, if necessary. Only Category III VI & V have sockets in the cabins - please check the voltage with your tour guide. Each carriage will have 220 V AC sockets available for charging. Mobile coverage is mostly good along the route. Check with your service provider for charges.

LUGGAGE & CLOTHING TO BRING

We strongly recommend travel bags rather than hard shelled suitcases for this trip as the latter are hard to handle and stow away on the train. The dress code is casual throughout the trip. We recommend sturdy shoes for excursions and you can expect chilly nights even in summer. When visiting churches you should dress modestly and women are expected to cover their heads with a scarf.

USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOUR

AIR CONDITIONING

The train is air-conditioned with some cabins being centrally controlled while the higher class cabins have their own independent systems. Note that the air-conditioning only works when the train is moving above 30km / hour.

CONDUCTORS

Each carriage has two dedicated conductors there 24 hours a day to look after you.

TIPPING

Tipping is always appreciated by our the people looking after you on the trip. Of course, any tipping is entirely up to you and should only be given for exceptionally good service. Final documents will include detailed information on who to tip as well as recommendations as to how much.

HOTEL CHECK-IN

Hotel check-in time is 2pm and check out by midday. Occasionally early check-in may be possible although this cannot be guaranteed.

MEDICAL & HEALTH

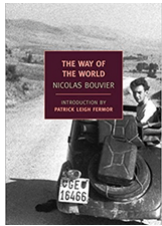
There are no particular vaccination requirements for this trip although we recommend you consult your doctor for final advice. The train will have a doctor on board. Fees are payable to the doctor and you will need to claim on your travel insurance after the trip.

TOILETS, WASHING & LAUNDRY

Small towels and sheeting is provided. Depending on your cabin class you will either have in cabin facilities or shared, end of carriage facilities. Opportunities for laundry are offered through the hotels and payable locally to them.

DINING CAR & DRINKS

Drinks are sold in both the dining car and by the conductors in your carriage. Payment is in Euros or US Dollars. Your conductor can provide you with hot or cold water. Drinks bought in the dining car are done so on a tab which is settled by you at the end of your trip. You must let us know of any dietary requirements before your trip starts.



THE WAY OF THE WORLD

NICHOLAS BOUVIER

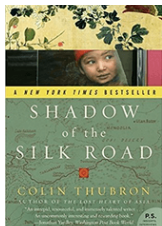
A well-written travelogue, both for its style, as well as its account of the regions traveled and their people. From the Balkans to Turkey, 2 artists bumble slowly across Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan in the early 50's: working, hanging around, trying to get by, trying to move on.



NEWS FROM TARTARY

PETER FLEMING

Peter Fleming travels from Beijing to Kashmir overland. The adventurous journey takes 7 months, and is related by Fleming with great wit and intelligence. Even though it does not touch on any 'Stan', it gives a real sense of how the Silk Road was before modernity arrived.



SHADOW OF THE SILK ROAD

COLIN THUBRON

The Silk Road from China to Turkey. This travelogue has none of the joyous travel spirit of Bouvier, the sheer love of adventure of Fleming or the unique intelligence of Byron. What it does have in abundance is stories of the lives of people he met along the way.



THE DAWN OF EURASIA

BRUNO MAÇÃES

Europe's fortunes are down, Asia is rising. It's the end of the end of history: democracy and human rights are no longer universal. A new multipolar world has China, Russia, Europe (and India) jostling for power in the Eurasian ecosystem. Where will the borderlands of Europe and Asia, caught in the middle, gravitate to?



GREAT GAMES, LOCAL RULES

ALEXANDER COOLEY

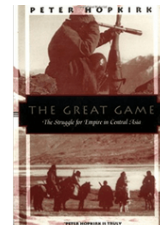
The most recent overview of Central Asia's regimes and their stance towards each other and the bigger powers surrounding them: China, Russia, and the US. Written by a recognized expert on the matter, this is the one to get for an informed view of present-day politics in the region.



THE NEW GREAT GAME

LUTZ KLEVEMAN

About the politics of oil this book criss-crosses the region from Tbilisi to Kashgar in attempt to ferret out the pipeline politics of the newly independent states post-9/11, with the US, Iran and China vying for a piece of the pie Russia could no longer gobble up alone.



THE GREAT GAME

PETER HOPKIRK

Probably the most popular book on Central Asia, and rightly so, this is the ultimate Great Game book. Reads like a spy novel, only that it actually all happened. A similar, equally gripping book by the same author is Setting the East Ablaze, about the Bolsheviks plot to bring communism to India through Central Asia.



GOODNIGHT, MISTER LENIN

TIZIANO TERZANI

Tiziano Terzani is a man who always turns up at the right place at the right time. In 1991, Terzani is floating down a river in Siberia when a call comes in: the Soviet Union no longer exists. He hops on a whirlwind tour of Central Asia and the southern Caucasus as the Russian colonial empire suddenly disintegrates. His mission: to find the corpse of Communism.