



THE TRANS-SIBERIAN TRAVEL COMPANY



"We regard each and every trip we organise as a trip of a lifetime."

TS-V-06-SP | ULTIMATE TRANS-SIBERIAN

WESTBOUND • VLADIVOSTOK TO ST PETERSBURG



 **ITINERARY PAGE 11**

 **PRICING & INCLUSIONS PAGE 55**



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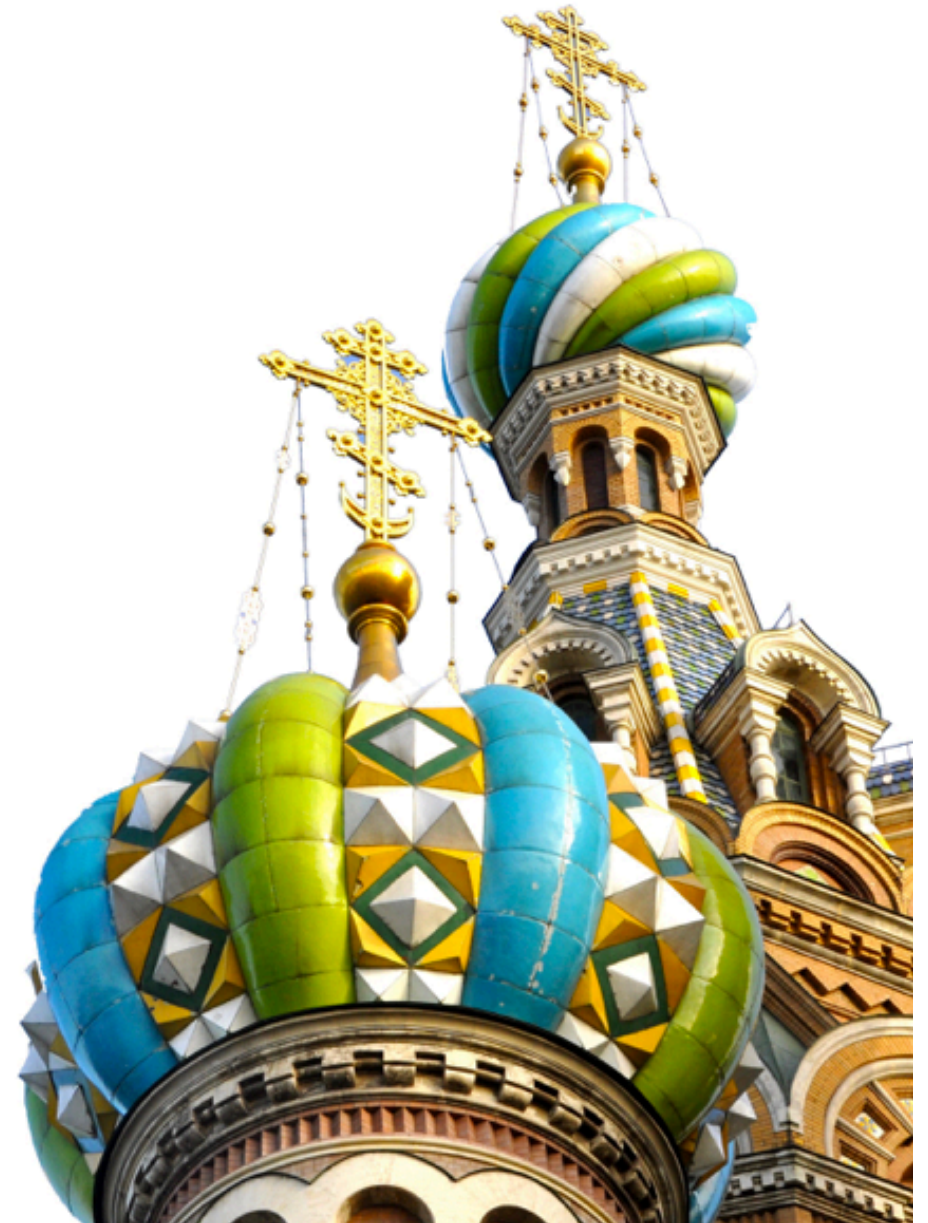
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ABOUT OUR COMPANY

Established as one of the UK's leading, independent and family owned Trans-Siberian and China tour specialist our focus is on well thought through private and tailor made rail adventures. Our emphasis is very much on creating the right trip for you and we work closely with you in order to achieve this. We regard the Trans-Siberian as a trip of a lifetime and use our experience and knowledge to make it that for you.

ALL TOURS ARE FINANCIALLY PROTECTED

We are members of **ABTA** (Y1699) and our tours are **ATOL** protected (license 10287) giving you full peace of mind when booking with us both for monies paid to us as well as the code of conduct and high standards we are both delighted to and required to uphold.





**THE
TRANS-SIBERIAN
TRAVEL COMPANY**



Distances & times are approximate



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CLICK TO EMAIL US

STARTING VLADIVOSTOK : TS-V-06-SP | ULTIMATE TRANS-SIBERIAN

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,

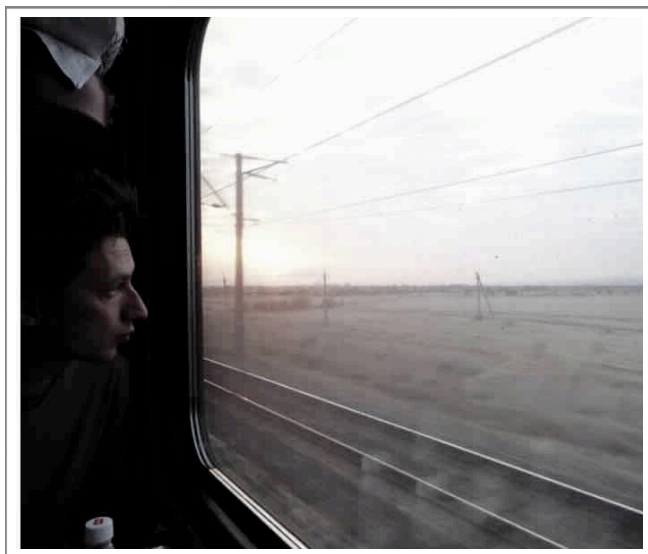
The Trans-Siberian Travel Company.

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- ABTA member Y1699
- ATOL License 10287



27 Nights / 28 Days | This Trip Visits:

● VLADIVOSTOK

Russia's Eastern Port city is a heavily influenced by nearby China & Japan.

● Khabarovsk

Vibrant & prosperous city on the mighty Amur River bordering China.

● Ulan Ude

East meets West in the Mongolian influenced capital of Buryatia.

● Irkutsk & Olkhon Island

Forward looking Siberian city & gateway to Lake Baikal & Olkhon Island.

● Krasnoyarsk

Busy city on the banks of the mighty Yenisey River in the heart of Siberia.

● Novosibirsk

Siberia's largest & most modern city yet often overlooked by tourists.

● Ekaterinburg

Historic city where Europe meets Asia & the Romanovs met their end.

● Perm

Fascinating city famous for Ice Caves & the sobering Perm 36 Gulag.

● Moscow

Russia's vast and iconic capital & the start of this railway adventure.

● St Petersburg

Beautiful & cultural city with a different feel to the rest of Russia.



WHAT OUR CLIENTS SAY - SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR MUCH MORE



"Just returned from Trans-Siberian tour Moscow-Vladivostok with 7 city stops. Phenomenal! This company exceeded our possible expectations and went above and beyond."

Aleona Kalinovskaya & Family



"I would absolutely recommend the Trans-Siberian Travel Company. You were so helpful in planning my trip through China, Mongolia and Russia This was a trip of a lifetime for me, and one I will not forget."

Muriel Adamson



"Unbelievably wonderful vacation! Everything organized perfectly and I had the experience of a lifetime. The tours and guides were amazing and this trip will be everything you are hoping for and more!"

Christine Houck



"Excellent service and communication with quick responses. The process of booking was really easy. Their knowledge and understanding of the Trans-Siberian and experiences along the way was clear and appreciated."

Amy Wegerhoff



"The booking process was very easy. Chris was patient, and a fountain of information during the planning stages, as we customised the journey. All in all, an unforgettable journey, which exceeded all of our expectations!"

Mark & Jeannette Adams



"Highly recommended, especially with the visa process and buying of all the different train tickets. The Trans-Siberian Travel Company made our trip easy and very memorable."

E Adam Smith


[CLICK HERE TO VIEW MORE FEEDBACK ON OUR WEBSITE](#)



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-
- 1**  **VLADIVOSTOK**
 - Your Trans-Siberian adventure begins in Russia's Far East Port City.Overnight - Lotte Hotel ★★★★★


 - 2**  **ON THE TRAIN**
 - Half day tour of the city's highlights & evening departure Westbound.Overnight - train Vladivostok to Khabarovsk

 - 3**  **KHABAROVSK**
 - Morning arrival and full day tour of the city of Khabarovsk.Overnight - City Boutique Hotel ★★★★★


 - 4**  **ON THE TRAIN**
 - Free morning before departing Khabarovsk into Russia wild Far East.Overnight - train Khabarovsk to Ulan Ude

 - 5**  **ON THE TRAIN**
 - Continue Eastbound entering Siberia towards Chita and Zabaykalsky Krai.Overnight - train Khabarovsk to Ulan Ude

 - 6**  **ULAN UDE**
 - Enter the Siberian region of Buryatia arriving at its capital of Ulan Ude.Overnight - Baikal Plaza ★★★★★

 - 7**  **ULAN UDE**
 - Visit Atsagatski Datsan and take a city tour of Ulan Ude.Overnight - Baikal Plaza ★★★★★
-



8  **ULAN UDE**


- Visit Ivolginski Datsan & the Old Believers Village outside of the city.

Overnight - Baikal Plaza ★★★★★

9  **IRKUTSK**

- Depart Ulan Ude & along the shores of Lake Baikal to Irkutsk & City tour.

Overnight - Irkutsk City Centre Hotel ★★★★★

10  **OLKHON**


- Transfer to Olkhon Island by Private Vehicle & Boat.

Overnight - Lada Resort ★★

11  **OLKHON**


- Explore the highlights and viewpoints of Olkhon by car.

Overnight - Lada Resort ★★

12  **IRKUTSK**


- Return to Irkutsk by boat and road with free time on arrival.

Overnight - Irkutsk City Centre Hotel ★★★★★

13  **ON THE TRAIN**

- Free time in Irkutsk before departing on your next train journey.

Overnight - train Irkutsk to Krasnoyarsk

14  **KRASNOYARSK**

- Arrive in and a city tour of Krasnoyarsk's Highlights.

Overnight - Dom Hotel Neo ★★★★★



15 **KRASNOYARSK**

- Day trip to the Krasnoyarsk Dam & Stolby National Park.

Overnight - Dom Hotel Neo ★★★

16 **NOVOSIBIRSK**

- Continue your journey Westbound to Novosibirsk, Siberia's largest city.

Overnight - Grand Autograph ★★★★★

17 **ON THE TRAIN**

- Full day tour of the city & Akademgorodok before an evening departure.

Overnight - train Novosibirsk to Ekaterinburg

18 **EKATERINBURG**

- Your last day in Siberia before arrival in Ekaterinburg.

Overnight - Onegin Hotel ★★★★★

19 **EKATERINBURG**

- Full day tour into the rolling Ural countryside to visit a traditional Ural village.

Overnight - Onegin Hotel ★★★★★

20 **PERM**

- City tour, Romanov's secret graves & the Europe Asia border & train to Perm

Overnight - Ural Hotel ★★★

21 **PERM**

- Day trip to Perm 36 Gulag, Kungur Ice Cave & Belogorsky Monastery.

Overnight - Ural Hotel ★★★



22 ON THE TRAIN

- Short walking tour before the a train on to Moscow.

Overnight - train Perm to Moscow

23 MOSCOW

- Arrival in Russia's Capital & tour the Kremlin & Armoury, Metro & Red Square.

Overnight - National Hotel ★★★★★

24 MOSCOW

- Free day to explore Moscow independently & enjoy its many sights.

Overnight - National Hotel ★★★★★

25 ST PETERSBURG

- High-speed "Sapsan" train to beautiful St Petersburg.

Overnight - Rossi Hotel ★★★★★

26 ST PETERSBURG

- Tour of the city highlights including time spent in the Hermitage Museum.

Overnight - Rossi Hotel ★★★★★

27 ST PETERSBURG

- Private tour by car out of the city to Pushkin & Pavlosk palaces.

Overnight - Rossi Hotel ★★★★★

28 END

- Depart Russia after your epic Trans-Siberian adventure!

Overnight - N/A



YOUR DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

The following pages detail your itinerary day by day. All our trips are tried and tested and, between us, we have visited all destinations and accommodation and travelled on all these trains. We like to offer our clients the greatest flexibility possible with their trip so if there is anything you would like to change please do not hesitate to contact us.

JUST ASK US IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE ANY CHANGES



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1 - Any Date

VLADIVOSTOK

- Your Trans-Siberian adventure begins in Russia's Far East Port City.

Arrival in Vladivostok, the legendary end (or beginning) of the true Trans-Siberian line. A driver will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel. For years this city was closed to foreigners being the home base of the Russian Pacific Fleet. It has a fantastic location on the Amursky Gulf.

Free time for the rest of the day to relax or start to explore the city with the help of your personalised Trip Guidebook we send you before the trip.

 **Meals Included:** None Today.



YOUR EXCLUSIVE TRIP GUIDEBOOK

Tap into our knowledge with a copy of our exclusive guidebook personalised to your trip. These books are packed full of tips about the trains, what to take, currency, train timetables, destination guides and much more. The perfect way to prepare for your Trans-Siberian experience with us!

OVERNIGHT

LOTTE HOTEL



Formerly the Hyundai Hotel, it is considered the best in Vladivostok located in the city centre with a good range of facilities including a swimming pool!



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked





Averages

Max temp °C

Min temp °C

Rainfall mm

| | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Max temp °C | -7 | -3 | 4 | 13 | 18 | 22 | 25 | 25 | 21 | 14 | 3 | -5 |
| Min temp °C | -17 | -13 | -7 | 1 | 6 | 11 | 16 | 16 | 9 | 2 | -7 | -14 |
| Rainfall mm | 7 | 7 | 16 | 18 | 50 | 52 | 95 | 89 | 82 | 32 | 20 | 13 |

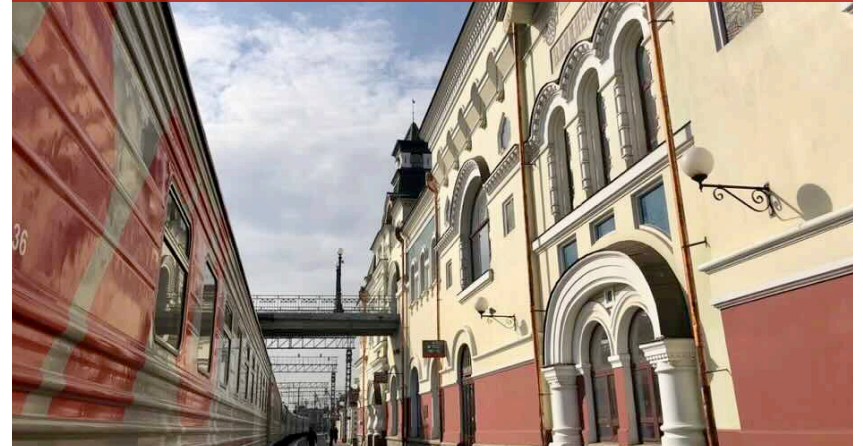
WATERFRONT



S-56 SUBMARINE



VLADIVOSTOK STATION



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 2

VLADIVOSTOK

- Half day tour of the city's highlights & evening departure Westbound.

Free time this morning to relax at the hotel or explore the surrounding area. This afternoon a classic city tour of Vladivostok offering a comprehensive introduction to the city's most iconic landmarks and attractions. Highlights include the Tokarevsky Lighthouse, one of Vladivostok's most recognisable symbols, and the Vladivostok Railway Station, the eastern terminus of the legendary Trans-Siberian Railway. Visitors will also see the Marine Passenger Terminal, the bustling Central Square, and stroll down Svetlanskaya Street, lined with beautiful historical buildings. The tour features the elegant Nikolai Triumph Arch, the historic Korabelnaya Quay—the site where the city was founded over 150 years ago—and the C-56 Submarine Museum, where entry is included.

The experience continues with a ride on the city's well-known Vladivostok Funicular, offering a charming and practical way to explore the steep hills. A stop at a panoramic viewpoint provides sweeping views of the city and Golden Horn Bay. Throughout the tour, participants will pass numerous other cultural, architectural, and historical sites that contribute to Vladivostok's unique character and rich heritage. With its blend of maritime history, Russian imperial architecture, and Soviet-era landmarks, this tour captures the essence of Vladivostok in just a few engaging hours.

This evening a transfer to the station for your first train Eastbound leaving behind its Pacific coastline and bustling port.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT



TRAIN #0053

VLADIVOSTOK - KHABAROVSK

Departs 20:01 Arrives 08:40 day 2
766 km / 476 ml | 0d 12hr 39 m | Local times & subject to change

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAINS](#)



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 3

Khabarovsk

- Morning arrival and full day tour of the city of Khabarovsk.

This morning the train reaches Khabarovsk, a major city in Russia's Far East. Situated on the banks of the Amur River, Khabarovsk boasts a striking waterfront, grand Soviet-era buildings, and a vibrant cultural scene. Transfer to your hotel where your luggage can be stored as room is unlikely to be available until this afternoon.

Begin a full-day tour of Khabarovsk which offers a rich exploration of its history, culture, and local life. Begin your day at Lenin Square, the city's central landmark, before heading to Muravyov-Amursky Park, home to the impressive Monument to Count Muravyov-Amursky. Enjoy panoramic views of the Amur River from the Cliff Lookout, a perfect spot for photos. Then, visit the Spaso-Preobrazhensky Cathedral, one of the most striking Orthodox churches in the region.

Next, explore the bustling Central Market, where locals shop for fresh produce, seafood, and regional delicacies. This is an excellent opportunity to experience daily life in Khabarovsk and sample local specialties. Afterward, enjoy lunch at a restaurant featuring Far Eastern cuisine, including dishes made from Amur River fish.

In the afternoon, visit the Far Eastern Art Museum, showcasing Russian and Asian artworks, followed by the Khabarovsk Regional Museum, which highlights the indigenous cultures, history, and wildlife of the Russian Far East. Take a leisurely stroll along the Amur River embankment, lined with sculptures, fountains, and picturesque city views.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast & Lunch.

OVERNIGHT

CITY BOUTIQUE HOTEL



Great location just off the main street and close to the Amur riverfront this is a stylish hotel with large rooms a great breakfast and a nice cocktail bar!



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked





Averages

Max temp °C

Min temp °C

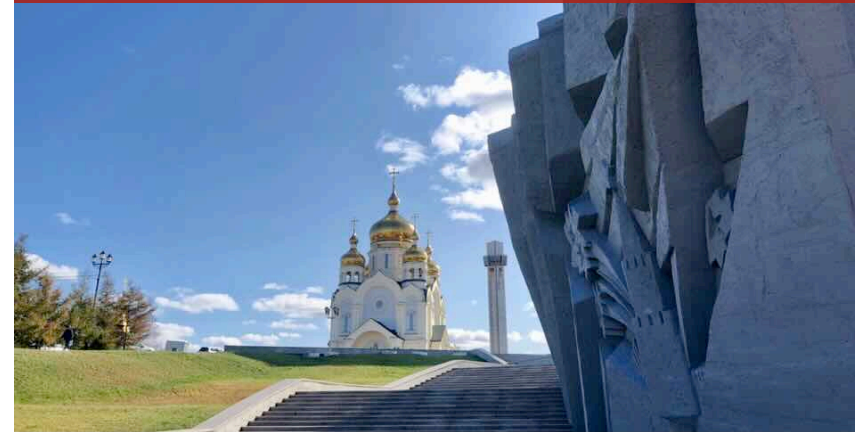
Rainfall mm

| | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Max temp °C | -16 | -10 | -1 | 10 | 18 | 24 | 27 | 25 | 19 | 10 | -3 | -14 |
| Min temp °C | -26 | -22 | -12 | -2 | 6 | 12 | 16 | 15 | 8 | -1 | -13 | -23 |
| Rainfall mm | 8 | 5 | 11 | 20 | 36 | 40 | 80 | 88 | 48 | 26 | 18 | 9 |

CHURCHES



MONUMENTS



BEAUTIFUL ARCHITECTURE



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 4

ON THE TRAIN

- Free morning before departing Khabarovsk into Russia wild Far East.

A free morning in Khabarovsk before an afternoon transfer to the station for the train on to Ulan Ude first crossing its 2.6 km bridge over the Amur river.

Your journey begins in the mid-afternoon as the train departs from Khabarovsk, heading west along the Trans-Siberian Railway. As the city fades into the distance, you'll pass through dense taiga forests, rolling hills, and small villages, offering a glimpse into rural life in the Russian Far East.

The train follows the mighty Amur River, providing stunning views, especially during sunset. Settle into your cabin, enjoy a meal in the dining car or your own packed snacks, and relax as the rhythmic sounds of the train lull you to sleep, preparing you for an exciting journey ahead.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT



TRAIN #0013

KHABAROVSK - ULAN UDE

Departs 13:26 Arrives 18:30 day 3

2,884 km / 1,792 ml | 2d 7 hr 4 m | Local times & subject to change

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAINS](#)



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 5

ON THE TRAIN

- Continue Eastbound entering Siberia towards Chita and Zabaykalsky Krai.

Wake up as the train rolls through Birobidzhan, the capital of the Jewish Autonomous Region, with its unique cultural heritage. The landscape transitions to open plains and vast forests, interspersed with small villages and rivers. As the day progresses, the train makes stops in Obluchye and Zeya, where you can briefly step out onto the platform.

Enjoy a traditional Russian tea from the samovar and chat with fellow travellers. The train winds through remote Siberian terrain, offering a true sense of the vastness of Russia. As night falls, relax in your cabin and prepare for another day on the rails.

By morning, the train reaches Skovorodino, marking your entry into deeper Siberia. The landscape becomes more rugged, with forested hills, rivers, and small wooden settlements dotting the route. The train makes longer stops in Mogochoa and Chernyshevsk, where passengers can buy food from local vendors selling fresh bread, smoked fish, and traditional pastries.

Spend the afternoon reading, gazing out the window, or enjoying a conversation with fellow travellers. The temperature may drop as you move further inland, so a warm drink from the dining car is a perfect companion. Another peaceful night onboard prepares you for the journey's final stretch.

 **Meals Included:** None today - however the train does have a dining car.

OVERNIGHT



TRAIN #0013

KHABAROVSK - ULAN UDE

Departs 13:26 Arrives 18:30 day 3

2,884 km / 1,792 ml | 2d 7 hr 4 m | Local times & subject to change

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAINS](#)



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 6

ULAN UDE

- Enter the Siberian region of Buryatia arriving at its capital of Ulan Ude.

Wake up as the train crosses into Buryatia, with the landscape shifting to rolling steppes, pine forests, and distant mountain ranges. By midday, you pass through Chita, a significant railway hub, before the scenery gradually opens into the Barguzin Valley. The final stretch follows the Selenga River, leading into Ulan-Ude, the capital of Buryatia, known for its unique mix of Russian and Buryat cultures.

Ulan-Ude is capital of the republic of Buryatia and due to its proximity to Mongolia has a traditional importance as a trading settlement between Russia, Mongolia and China. Famed for having the largest Lenin head in the world the other attractions are found outside of the city.

Transfer to your hotel with the rest of the evening free.

 **Meals Included:** None today - however the train does have a dining car.

OVERNIGHT

BAIKAL PLAZA



Offers comfortable accommodations, central location, modern amenities, local cuisine, and warm hospitality for an enjoyable stay.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 7

ULAN UDE

- Visit Atsagatski Datsan and take a city tour of Ulan Ude.

After breakfast, embark on a scenic drive to Atsagatski Datsan, a historic Buddhist monastery founded in 1825. This datsan was not only a significant spiritual center but also a renowned teaching monastery specialising in Tibetan Medicine. It played a crucial role in educating monks in both religious and medical practices. The peaceful surroundings and the rich cultural heritage of the site make for an immersive experience.

Next, travel to a nearby village established in the 19th century, where the Buryat people, who form the majority of the population, have preserved their ancient traditions and customs. The village provides a unique window into the lifestyle and culture of the Buryats, offering a glimpse of their rituals, architecture, and everyday life.

Enjoy a traditional lunch in a local home, experiencing the warm hospitality and unique flavours of Buryat cuisine. Afterward, take some free time to explore the village before returning to the city for a city tour before a transfer to the station for your departure.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast & Traditional Lunch.

OVERNIGHT

BAIKAL PLAZA



Offers comfortable accommodations, central location, modern amenities, local cuisine, and warm hospitality for an enjoyable stay.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked





Averages

Max temp °C

Min temp °C

Rainfall mm

| | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Max temp °C | -18 | -10 | 0 | 9 | 18 | 24 | 27 | 23 | 16 | 7 | -5 | -15 |
| Min temp °C | -30 | -26 | -15 | -5 | 2 | 9 | 13 | 10 | 3 | -6 | -17 | -26 |
| Rainfall mm | 6 | 3 | 4 | 17 | 18 | 54 | 74 | 77 | 32 | 8 | 10 | 10 |

IVOLGINSKY DATSAN



DOWNTOWN



BURYAT PEOPLE



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 8

ULAN UDE

- Visit Ivolginski Datsan & the Old Believers Village outside of the city.

Today, we depart the city and head toward the impressive Ivolginski Datsan, a prominent center of Buddhism in Russia. This spiritual site, with its stunning temples and vibrant architecture, houses a unique Buddhist library filled with sacred texts and rare manuscripts. The datsan is a hub of religious and cultural life for the local Buryat community.

Next, we visit a Old Believer village, home to a community that separated from the Russian Orthodox Church in 1666 in opposition to religious reforms. The Old Believers practice a form of Christianity that remains largely unchanged since that time. During our visit, you'll explore their church, visit a small museum that preserves their history, and learn about their distinct traditions.

Lunch is hosted in a local home, offering an authentic experience of Old Believer hospitality. After some free time to explore, we return to Ulan Ude to overnight.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast & Traditional Lunch.

OVERNIGHT

BAIKAL PLAZA



Offers comfortable accommodations, central location, modern amenities, local cuisine, and warm hospitality for an enjoyable stay.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 9

IRKUTSK

- Depart Ulan Ude & along the shores of Lake Baikal to Irkutsk & City tour.

After breakfast a transfer to the station for the train to Irkutsk (train 69 / 1). Later this morning you reach Lake Baikal travelling along its southern shore and one of the most scenic sections of the whole Trans-Siberian.

Today is usually the scenic highlight of the entire journey, a day of lake, forest and mountain views. Late afternoon arrival in Irkutsk, regarded as the modern day cultural capital of Siberia, famed for its traditional wooden architecture, complimented by a vibrant cafe and restaurant culture.

Transfer to your hotel and once settled and once you've settled in, begin a leisurely two-hour walking tour of the city centre, exploring Irkutsk's rich history and architecture. Your tour will take you through the central park, where you can visit the War Memorial, a solemn tribute to fallen soldiers. Along the Angara River, admire several of the city's beautiful churches, showcasing Irkutsk's architectural diversity and spiritual heritage.

A highlight of the tour is a stop at the statue of Alexander III, the Russian tsar credited with the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railway, which played a key role in connecting Siberia with the rest of Russia.

After the tour, return to your hotel, where you'll have the rest of the day. You can visit local cafés, discover nearby museums, or enjoy a peaceful evening walk along the riverside to soak in more of Irkutsk's unique atmosphere.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT

IRKUTSK CITY CENTRE



Regarded as the best hotel in Irkutsk the former Marriott is an ideal treat. All you would expect from from a good solid 4 star hotel.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked





Averages

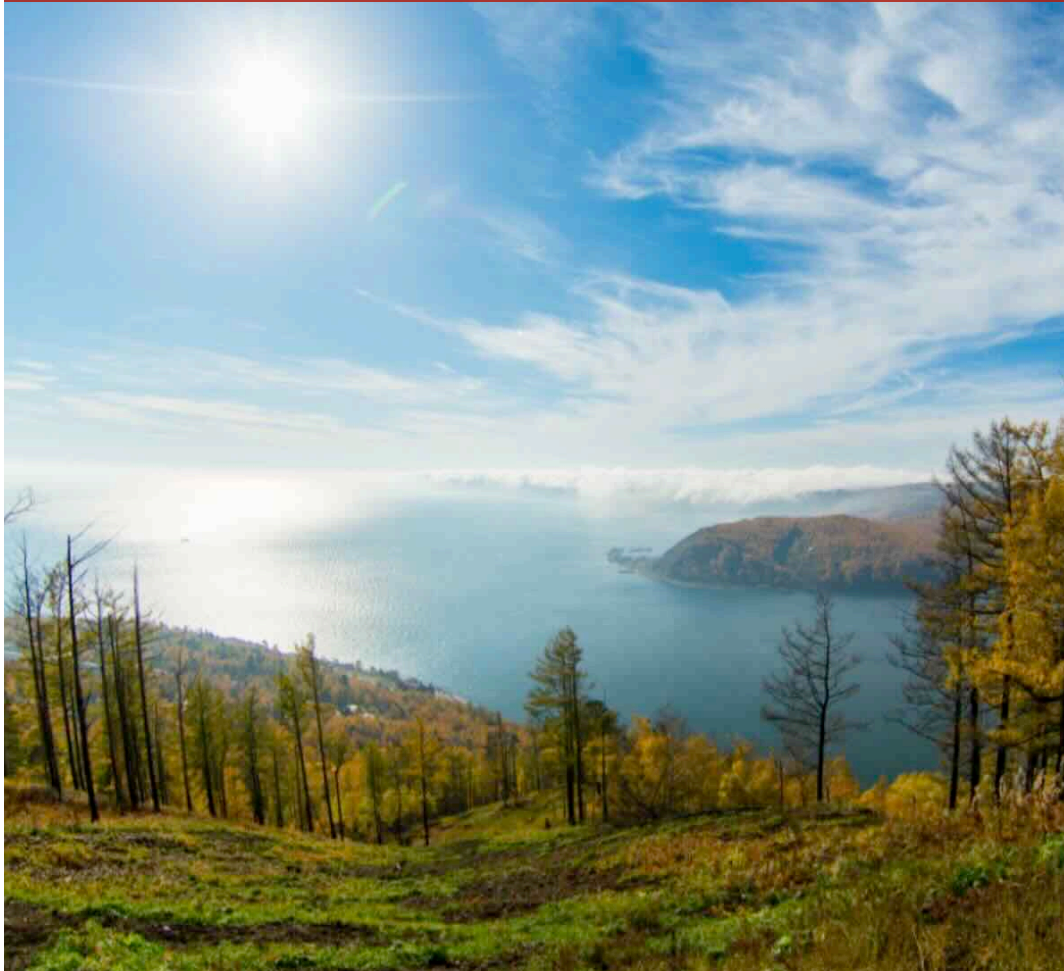
Max temp °C

Min temp °C

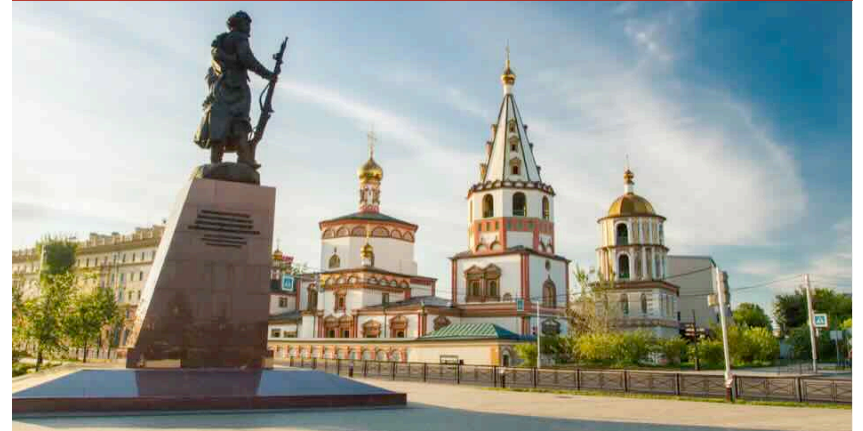
Rainfall mm

| | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Max temp °C | -14 | -8 | 0 | 8 | 17 | 22 | 24 | 22 | 15 | 7 | -4 | -12 |
| Min temp °C | -25 | -22 | -15 | -5 | 2 | 8 | 12 | 9 | 2 | -5 | -16 | -22 |
| Rainfall mm | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 9 | 21 | 37 | 20 | 3 | 6 | 5 |

LAKE BAIKAL



IRKUTSK CITY



OMUL FISH



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 10

OLKHON ISLAND

- **Transfer to Olkhon Island by Private Vehicle & Boat.**

After breakfast a guide will meet at the hotel to take you to Olkhon island by private car or minibus finishing the journey with a short boat trip to reach the island itself. Note that in the summer months there can be a queue for the ferry and it is not possible to pre-book a place on it in advance.

Transport on to Khuzhir village, the island's main settlement with a population of 1,500 people and check-in to the hotel before seeing the sunset at Shaman cape - note it is also possible to organise a 2 hour boat trip to see the sunset from the lake for an additional local payment.

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT THIS OLKHON ISLAND STOPOVER

Accommodation on Olkhon is in the traditional Siberian style of log cabins, separate, outside buildings for drop (not flush) toilets and a Russian banya (sauna) for washing. For most choosing to come here this is all part of the experience and feedback is overwhelmingly positive. However, if it feels a bit too basic for you we can offer more comfortable stopover options - just not on Olkhon Island.

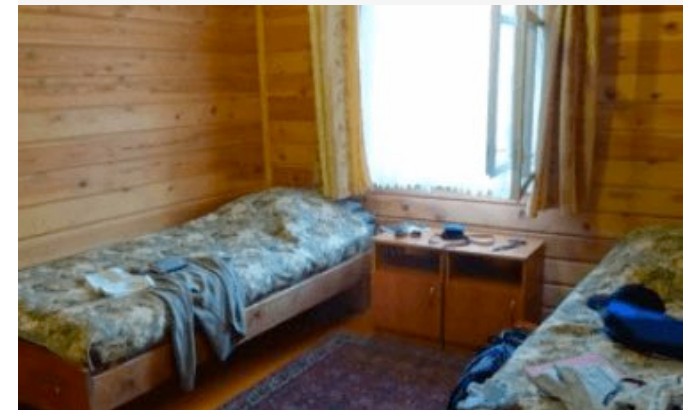
 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

LADA RESORT

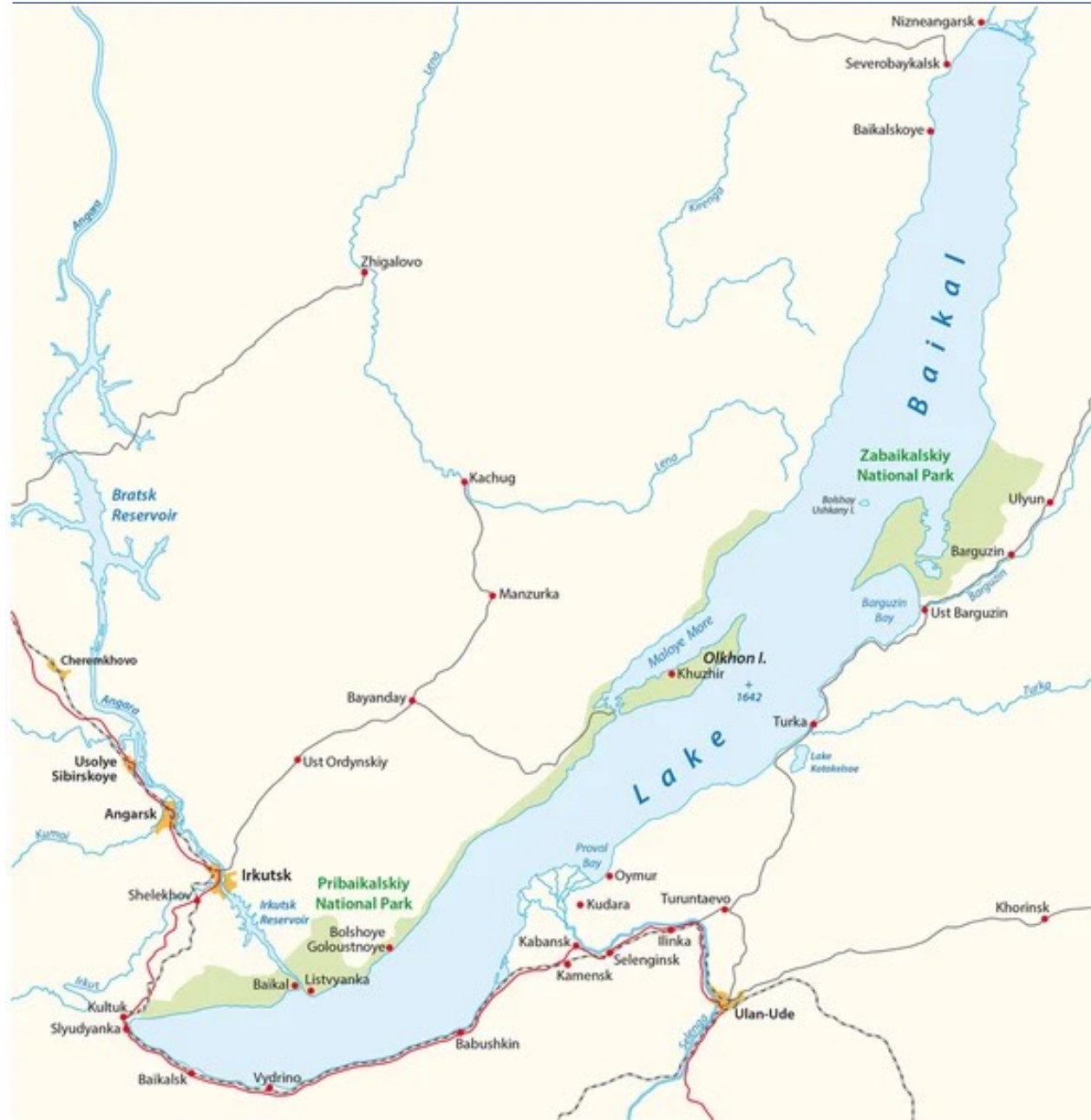


Traditional Russian style wooden hotel full of character and one of the best of the options in Khuzhir making an ideal base to explore.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked





LAKE BAIKAL - DID YOU KNOW ?

- Lake Baikal is the world's oldest freshwater lake, estimated to be around 25-30 million years old. Its age makes it a unique natural laboratory for studying evolution and geological processes.
- With a depth of 1,642 meters (5,387 feet), Lake Baikal is the deepest lake in the world, holding about 20% of the world's unfrozen freshwater supply.
- The lake hosts over 3,700 species of plants and animals, two-thirds of which are endemic, meaning they can't be found anywhere else. The most famous is the Baikal seal (nerpa), the only freshwater seal species in the world.
- The water in Lake Baikal is incredibly clear, especially during winter. In some areas, you can see up to 40 meters (131 feet) down into the lake.
- Lake Baikal is a rift lake, formed due to tectonic plate movements. It's still expanding, at a rate of about 2 cm (0.8 inches) per year, meaning it could eventually become an ocean over millions of years.
- During the winter, the lake freezes over, and its ice can reach up to 1.5 meters thick. The ice is so transparent that people can see fish and plant life beneath it.
- For centuries, Lake Baikal has been considered sacred by indigenous people, especially the Buryat population.



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 11

OLKHON

- Explore the highlights and viewpoints of Olkhon by car.

Today, we venture out to explore Olkhon Island, the largest island in Lake Baikal, by private car, allowing for a personalised and immersive experience of this magical place. Stretching 72 kilometres in length, Olkhon offers some of the best vantage points to appreciate the vast, serene beauty of Lake Baikal, the world's deepest freshwater lake.

The island's diverse scenery ranges from golden sandy beaches and dense forests to dramatic, jagged cliffs, such as those at the iconic Choboi Cape, a stunning spot that offers panoramic views of the lake's pristine waters.

Olkhon holds deep spiritual significance for the indigenous Buryat people, who revere it as one of the five poles of Shamanic energy. Ancient rituals and legends infuse the air with an otherworldly quality, adding a sense of mystique and reverence.

Visitors often feel this spiritual aura, making Olkhon a place not only of natural beauty but of deep cultural and sacred resonance. Whether marvelling at sacred rock formations or walking along tranquil shores, the island offers a profound connection to the heritage and spiritual traditions of Lake Baikal.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

LADA RESORT



Traditional Russian style wooden hotel full of character and one of the best of the options in Khuzhir making an ideal base to explore.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 12

IRKUTSK

- Return to Irkutsk by boat and road with free time on arrival.

After breakfast we make our way back to Irkutsk by boat and private mini-bus or car arriving in the afternoon.

The journey from Olkhon Island to Irkutsk offers a captivating transition from natural serenity to city life. You depart by ferry across Lake Baikal's expansive waters before traveling through rolling hills and forests, passing small villages and open steppe landscapes.

The route highlights Siberia's rural charm, with glimpses of traditional wooden houses and grazing livestock, culminating in the vibrant, historic city of Irkutsk, a gateway to Baikal's wonders.

NOTE: The arrival time back in Irkutsk can be anytime from mid-afternoon to the evening depending on demand for the boat from Olkhon Island to the mainland which does not operate a reservations system and is first come first served. This is why we include another night in Irkutsk to cover this.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast at the Resort.

OVERNIGHT

IRKUTSK CITY CENTRE



Regarded as the best hotel in Irkutsk the former Marriott is an ideal treat. All you would expect from from a good solid 4 star hotel.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 13

ON THE TRAIN

- Free time in Irkutsk before departing on your next train journey.

Free time in the this morning before a transfer to the station the afternoon to catch a train Westbound.

The train journey from Irkutsk to Ekaterinburg is an epic adventure across Siberia, offering breathtaking views of vast taiga forests, the Ural Mountains, and charming Russian villages. Traveling along the historic Trans-Siberian Railway, the multi-day ride allows for cultural immersion, encounters with local travellers, and a deep connection with Russia's expansive landscapes, blending history, scenery, and camaraderie.

Key stops between Irkutsk and Ekaterinburg include Krasnoyarsk, a vibrant Siberian city along the Yenisei River; Novosibirsk, Russia's third-largest city and a scientific hub; and Omsk, rich in Cossack history. The journey showcases Russia's vast and diverse landscapes, with each stop revealing distinct architecture, culture, and regional traditions.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT



TRAIN #009H

IRKUTSK - KRASNOYARSK

Departs 15:50 Arrives 08:34 day 2
1,088 km / 676 ml | 17 hr 44 m | Local times & subject to change

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAINS](#)



TRANS-SIBERIAN DINING OPTIONS



TYPICAL RUSSIAN DINING CAR DISHES

- **Solyanka Солянка:** A hearty and sour soup with a mix of meat, pickles, and spices.
- **Shchi Щи:** A cabbage-based soup, often served with sour cream.
- **Pirozhki Пирожки:** Small baked or fried buns filled with meat, potatoes, cabbage, or sweet fillings like jam.
- **Borscht Борщ:** A traditional beet soup served hot, often with sour cream and sometimes accompanied by bread or a meat cutlet.
- **Pelmeni Пельмени:** Russian dumplings filled with meat, usually served with sour cream or butter.
- **Kasha Каша:** A type of porridge made from grains like buckwheat or oats, often served for breakfast.
- **Blini Блины:** Thin Russian pancakes, often served with fillings like jam, sour cream, or caviar.
- **Kotleti Котлеты:** Meat patties made from minced beef or chicken, typically served with mashed potatoes or rice.
- **Russian Tea & Sweets Русский чай и сладости:** Hot tea served in podstakannik (a metal tea glass holder), typically accompanied by cookies, chocolates, or small cakes.

Introduction: Dining on the Trans-Siberian Railway is a blend of onboard meals, platform food, and self-prepared options.

Dining Car: The dining car offers traditional Russian dishes like borscht, pelmeni, and kotleti, along with simpler fare like salads and sandwiches. Travellers can enjoy hearty, filling meals in a cozy setting while sipping tea, often served in the classic podstakannik (metal holders).

Stations: At station stops, passengers can buy food from local vendors. These vendors sell regional delicacies such as pirozhki (stuffed buns), smoked fish, and fresh fruit, providing a chance to taste the flavours of Russia's vast regions as you pass through.

Supermarkets: Many passengers prefer to bring their own provisions from supermarkets before boarding. Items like instant noodles, bread, cheese, and sausage are popular, with boiling water available on the train to make quick meals. This option is especially convenient for longer stretches between stops.

The combination of onboard dining, platform food, and self-prepared snacks ensures a varied and flexible eating experience, catering to both adventurous and budget-conscious travellers.



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 14

KRASNOYARSK

- Arrive in and a city tour of Krasnoyarsk's Highlights.

Morning arrival in Krasnoyarsk where you will be met at the station to start an half day city tour. This prosperous city located on the Yenisey River is highly regarded for it's cultural life as well as the beautiful scenery of the Stolby Nature Reserve a short distance from the city.

As a hotel room is unlikely to be ready this early we start with a city tour which begins with the monument to Andrey Dubensky, the founder of the city, which also offers superb views and Karaulnaya Hill where Paraskeva Pjatrnitza Chapel built in 1855 is located. Move on to the Annunciation temple, Intercession Cathedral and Catholic church as well as Mira Avenue, the Drama Theatre, Opera and Ballet House and Yenisey quay.

After the tour continue to your hotel to check-in with free time for the rest of the day.

 **Meals Included:** None today - however the train does have a dining car.

OVERNIGHT

DOM HOTEL NEO



A bright and contemporary edition to the hotels in Krasnoyarsk with modern rooms, friendly service and a great cafe attached to the hotel.

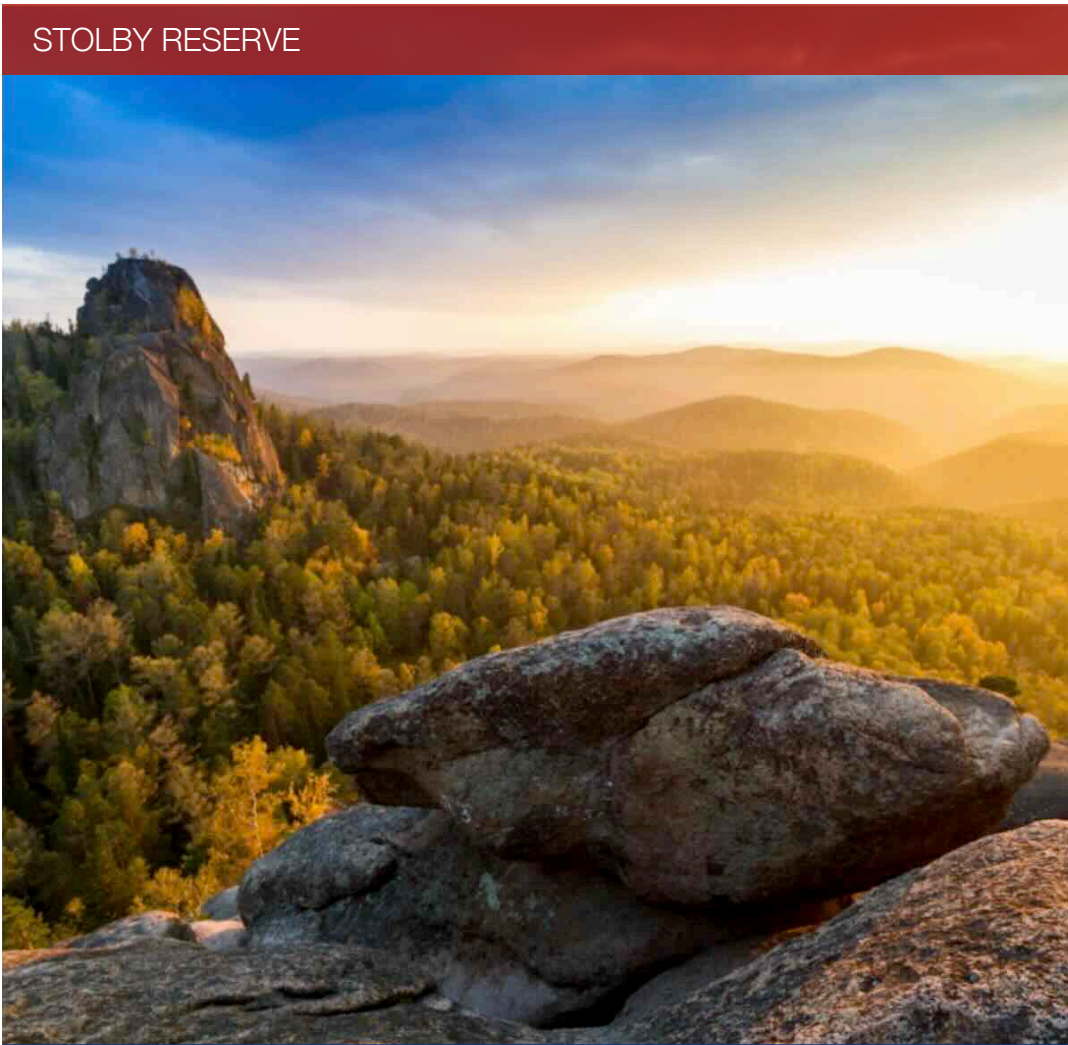


Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked

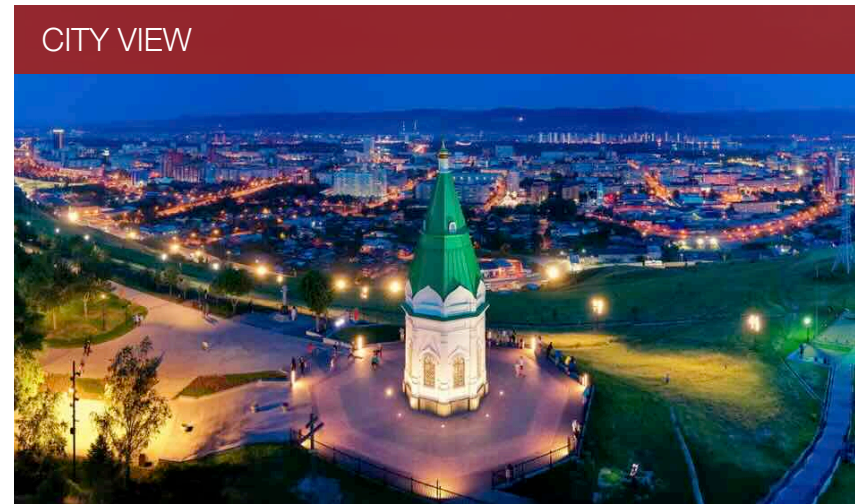




| Averages | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Max temp °C | -9 | -7 | 0 | 6 | 16 | 22 | 25 | 21 | 13 | 8 | -4 | -9 |
| Min temp °C | -17 | -16 | -10 | -4 | 4 | 9 | 13 | 10 | 3 | -1 | -11 | -17 |
| Rainfall mm | 13 | 15 | 15 | 40 | 71 | 66 | 78 | 117 | 48 | 61 | 30 | 26 |



STOLBY RESERVE



CITY VIEW



KRASNOYARSK DAM

YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 15

KRASNOYARSK

- Day trip to the Krasnoyarsk Dam & Stolby National Park.

Today we head out of the city firstly visiting the Krasnoyarsk Hydro Power Station and Dam, Russia's second largest. Here you can see the mighty Yenisei river which, at 4,092 km is the longest in Russia. The dam is an extraordinary feat of engineering as it had to be designed to cope with the intense cold and ice pressure of winter. The 124 meter dam was completed in 1972. It is featured on the 10 Rouble banknote.

Enjoy a picnic lunch before visiting the Stolby National Park which is renowned for its dramatic rock formations, called "stolby" (pillars), which attract hikers and rock climbers. The park offers dense forests, wildlife, and scenic hiking trails. Established in 1925, it's a popular destination for nature enthusiasts and adventure seekers year-round.

We make a short walk of about 2-3 km round trip to the centre of the reserve where there are beautiful views and unusual rock formations. Time to enjoy the scenery and nature before returning to the city and a free evening.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast & Picnic Lunch.

OVERNIGHT

DOM HOTEL NEO



A bright and contemporary edition to the hotels in Krasnoyarsk with modern rooms, friendly service and a great cafe attached to the hotel.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 16

NOVOSIBIRSK

- Continue your journey Westbound to Novosibirsk, Siberia's largest city.

After an early breakfast a transfer to the station for your onward train. Today's journey offers beautiful scenery characterised by gently rolling hills and expansive forests dominated by larch, pine, and birch trees. The landscape, dotted with numerous rivers, streams, and ponds, showcases Russia's immense natural beauty and gives a sense of its vast, often untouched wilderness. As you travel through Siberia, the changing views offer an appreciation of the country's sweeping, unspoiled terrain.

Reach Novosibirsk, Siberia's largest city and a major cultural, scientific, and industrial hub. Novosibirsk greets visitors with grand Soviet-era architecture, bustling streets, and a lively cityscape—a stark contrast to the serene countryside vistas experienced throughout the day. This segment of your journey reveals Siberia's incredible diversity and timeless allure.

Transfer to your hotel to overnight.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT

GRAND AUTOGRAPH



Considered the best hotel in Novosibirsk the former Marriott has high standards and an unbeatable location.



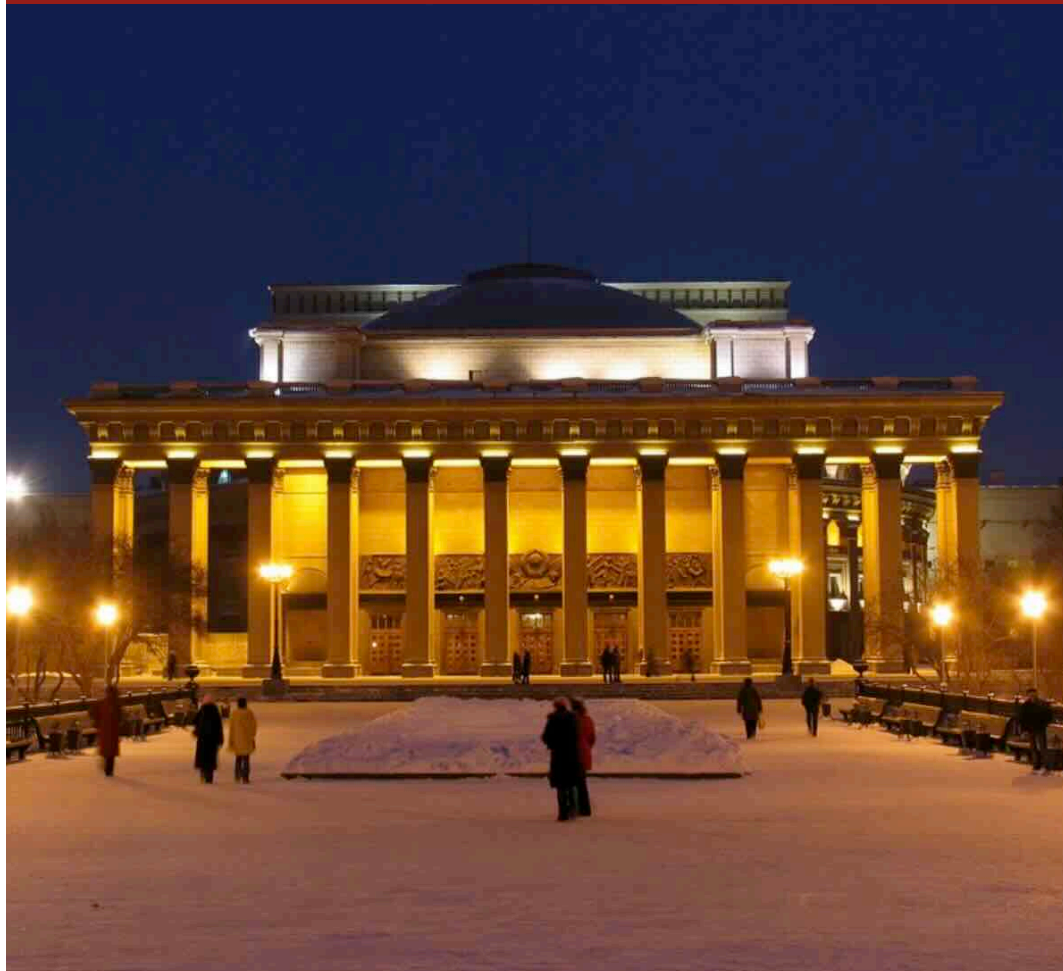
Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked



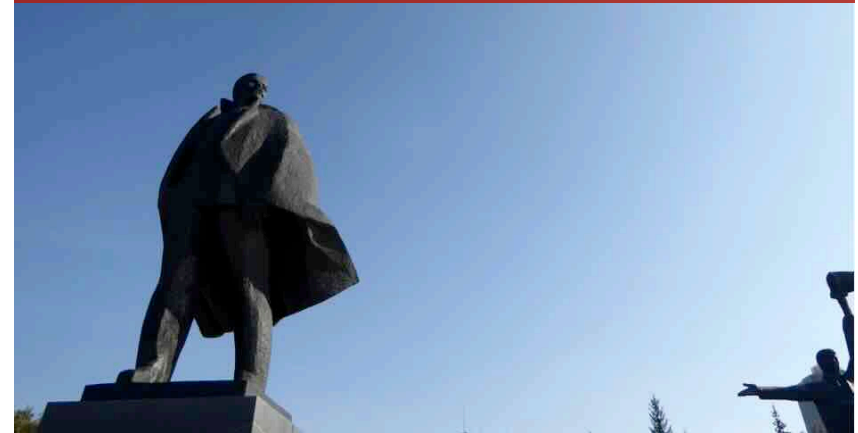


| Averages | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Max temp °C | -12 | -8 | -1 | 8 | 19 | 23 | 26 | 23 | 16 | 8 | -4 | -10 |
| Min temp °C | -22 | -20 | -14 | -3 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 11 | 5 | -1 | -11 | -19 |
| Rainfall mm | 25 | 18 | 20 | 26 | 35 | 64 | 69 | 48 | 54 | 35 | 34 | 34 |

OPERA HOUSE



LENIN



TRAIN MUSEUM



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 17

NOVOSIBIRSK

- Full day tour of the city & Akademgorodok before an evening departure.

This morning we have a walking tour of the city's highlights including Novosibirsk Railway Station - the Trans-Siberian Railways largest - the Ascension Cathedral, Krasny Prospect street, Lenin Square and its beautiful Opera House. You pass the traditional Siberian wooden houses on Gorkogo Street in the oldest part of the city as well as stop at St Nicolas Chapel - the geographic centre of Russia.

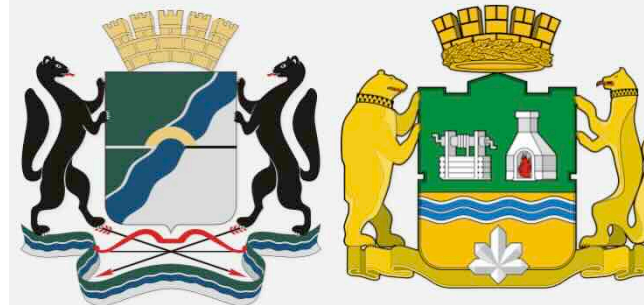
Continue along the river Ob's embankment and the colourful Siberian farmers market may be open. You will also have time to visit the Trans-Siberian Railway Museum.

This afternoon we drive out of the centre to the scientific city Akademgorodok 30km from Novosibirsk and known as the only scientific city in the world where all the branches of sciences are represented and which has been nicknamed by some as the "Scientific Vatican". here we visit of 2 museums of your choice from the Geology Museum at the Geology Research Institute, the Archeological Museum at the Institute of Archeology and Ethnography, the Open-Air Train Museum (a superb collection of old Trans-Siberian trains!) You will also see the river Ob reservoir – an artificial Ob sea!

Return to the city with some free time before a transfer to the station for your onward train.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT



TRAIN #009H

NOVOSIBIRSK - EKATERINBURG

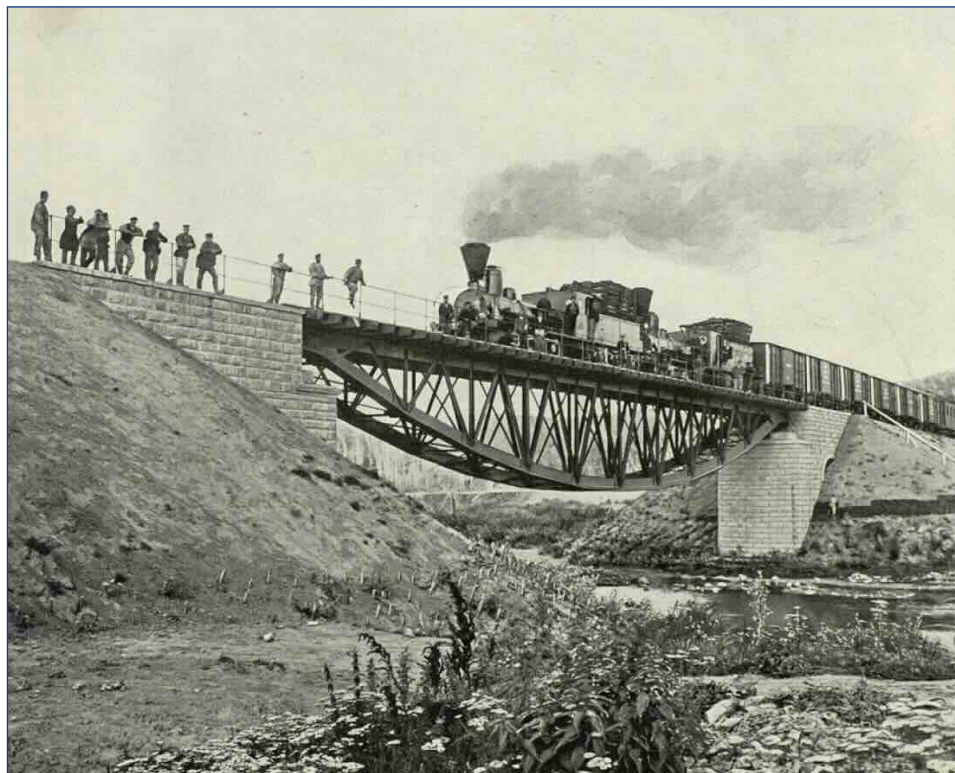
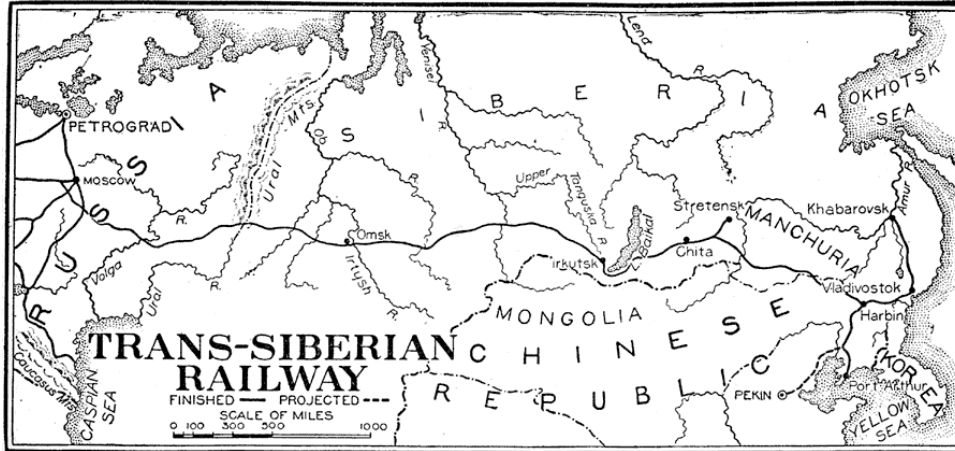
Departs 22:42 Arrives 16:37 day 2

1,525 km / 948 ml | 19 hr 55 m | Local times & subject to change

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAINS](#)



THE BUILDING OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN



CONSTRUCTION OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN - DID YOU KNOW ?

- The Trans-Siberian Railway is the longest railway line in the world, stretching over 9,289 kilometres (5,772 miles) from Moscow to Vladivostok. It crosses eight time zones.
- Construction of the railway began in 1891 under the rule of Tsar Alexander III. His son, Nicholas II, who would later become Russia's last tsar, was tasked with overseeing the project.
- The railway was constructed in phases, with work starting in both the west (near Moscow) and the east (near Vladivostok). Different sections were completed at various times, and the entire line was finished in 1916.
- The construction faced numerous geographical challenges, including crossing mountains, forests, and swamps. For example, engineers had to build bridges across major rivers like the Ob and Amur, and deal with the extreme cold of Siberian winters.
- Before the railway line around Lake Baikal was completed, trains had to be loaded onto ferries to cross the lake. A special icebreaker ferry, the Baikal, was built to operate in winter when the lake froze.
- The Amur Bridge near Khabarovsk, completed in 1916, was the final piece of the Trans-Siberian puzzle, linking the entire route without interruption. It spans 2.6 kilometres (1.6 miles) and was one of the most challenging engineering feats of the project.
- The construction of the Trans-Siberian Railway was extremely expensive and was partly funded by international loans, especially from France. The railway was seen as a crucial strategic asset to expand Russian influence in the Far East.
- The Trans-Siberian Railway has been continually modernised. The electrification of the railway started in 1929 and was completed in 2002, allowing for faster and more efficient trains to operate on the line.

YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 18

EKATERINBURG

- Your last day in Siberia before arrival in Ekaterinburg.

Today's scenery offers a captivating journey through Russia's diverse landscapes. For much of the day, the view remains flat, often giving way to vast, swampy expanses and stretches of dense forest. The sparsely populated region creates a serene atmosphere, interrupted occasionally by small settlements. Omsk stands out as the primary major city along this route, offering glimpses of its rich cultural heritage, striking architecture, and history as a key Cossack stronghold.

As the day progresses, the flat terrain transforms into the rolling hills of the Ural Mountains, a significant geographical marker and gateway between Europe and Asia. The Ural region, rich in minerals, has historically been a hub of economic and cultural activity.

Arriving in Ekaterinburg, the historic capital of this region, you are greeted by a city steeped in history—from the Romanov legacy to its vibrant present. Surrounded by rolling countryside and traditional Siberian villages, Ekaterinburg offers a blend of cultural significance and natural beauty. Transfer by private car to your hotel for an overnight stay, ready to explore more of this intriguing area.

 **Meals Included:** None today - however the train should have a dining car.

OVERNIGHT

ONEGIN HOTEL



Good standard 4 star hotel well located and decorated in the Imperial Russian style inside. comfortable rooms and good restaurant and bar.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked





| Averages | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Max temp °C | -9 | -7 | 1 | 9 | 17 | 22 | 24 | 20 | 14 | 7 | -3 | -8 |
| Min temp °C | -18 | -17 | -10 | -2 | 4 | 10 | 12 | 10 | 4 | -1 | -10 | -16 |
| Rainfall mm | 15 | 14 | 12 | 17 | 30 | 46 | 79 | 53 | 30 | 28 | 22 | 20 |

ROMANOV GRAVE SITE



EUROPE ASIA BORDER



EKATERINBURG CITY



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 19

ON THE TRAIN

- Full day tour into the rolling Ural countryside to visit a traditional Ural village.

Today we drive out of the city to one of the photogenic country villages that are scattered across the rolling scenery of the Ural mountains. Here we see a traditional Siberian “izba” house - a style suited to the often extreme environment - that can be seen right across Siberia.

We also visit the local museum to learn about everyday life in this part of Russia and listen to a concert of local folk music. There will be time to explore the village with your guide and you will also enjoy a traditional Siberian homestyle lunch often using locally produced and seasonal ingredients.

Return to Ekaterinburg late afternoon with a free evening.

NOTE: Depending on the day of your visit this trip will be to either Koptelovo, Nizhnyaya Sinyachikha or Mironovo village all approximately 150 km from Ekaterinburg.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast & Traditional Lunch.

OVERNIGHT

ONEGIN HOTEL



Good standard 4 star hotel well located and decorated in the Imperial Russian style inside. comfortable rooms and good restaurant and bar.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked





The Romanov dynasty ruled Russia for over 300 years, from 1613 to 1917, beginning with Mikhail Romanov and ending with Nicholas II. The family came to power during a time of unrest known as the Time of Troubles, and Mikhail Romanov was elected Tsar in 1613, restoring stability to the country.

Over the centuries, the Romanovs expanded Russia into a vast empire. Under rulers like Peter the Great and Catherine the Great, the empire modernised, engaged with Europe, and grew in power. Peter introduced Western reforms and established St. Petersburg, while Catherine expanded Russia's territory and promoted culture.

The last Romanov tsar, Nicholas II, ascended the throne in 1894. His reign saw significant challenges, including the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905), Bloody Sunday (1905), and the Russian Revolution of 1905. Despite efforts at reform, discontent grew. The Bolshevik Revolution in 1917 led to Nicholas abdicating the throne.

In 1918, the Bolsheviks executed Nicholas II, his wife Alexandra, and their five children, ending the Romanov dynasty. The family's downfall was due to political unrest, social inequality, and failure to adapt to the changing political climate, marking the end of imperial Russia.

THE ROMANOVS IN EKATERINBURG - A TIMELINE

- April 30, 1918: The Romanov family — Tsar Nicholas II, Tsarina Alexandra, and their five children — arrived in Ekaterinburg after being transferred from Tobolsk by the Bolsheviks.
- They were imprisoned in the Ipatiev House, also known as the “House of Special Purpose.” The house was heavily guarded, and the family's movements were restricted.
- The Romanovs were confined to two rooms. Their personal freedoms and comforts gradually diminished; they were forbidden from interacting with guards and could only go outside for limited walks.
- Heightened Security: In June 1918, the Bolsheviks increased the security around Ipatiev House. Windows were boarded up, and outside communications were cut off, signalling the impending end.
- Bolshevik leaders feared a possible rescue attempt by the advancing White Army, which prompted them to consider the execution of the Romanov family to prevent their liberation.
- July 16, 1918: The Bolsheviks received orders from Moscow to execute the Romanov family, concerned over White Army movements in the region.
- The bodies were initially buried in a shallow grave in the Koptyaki Forest, near Ekaterinburg. The burial site remained a secret for decades.
- In 1991, the Romanov family's remains were discovered, identified through DNA testing, and reburied in St. Petersburg in 1998.



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 20

PERM

- City tour, Romanov's secret graves & the Europe Asia border & train to Perm

This morning your guide will take you on a 3 hour walking tour of the city's highlights. Stop at the central square and see statues of Ekaterinburg's founders and leaders and learn local stories, legends (and a few jokes!) related to them. Continue to the 1905 Revolution square before the most compelling story will be told at the beautiful Church of Spilled Blood located at the Romanovs' Death Site and Chapel of St Elizabeth. See views from the Hill of Ascension and visit the powerful Afghanistan memorial at the Square of the Red Army.

After lunch (own arrangement) drive 15 km north-west to a monastery dedicated to the Romanov's family located on the spot where the Bolsheviks tried to hide the corpses of the Tsar and his family in a secret grave.

Continue on to the continental border of Europe and Asia 20 km west of the city. On the way we make a short stop at the Memorial of Victims of the GULAGs. The Main Obelisk "Between Europe & Asia" allows you to straddle the continental divide and you also get a Certificate with a glass of sparkling wine!

Return to Ekaterinburg to catch a train on to Perm with a late evening arrival. Known for Dr Zhivago, modern day Perm has fast reinvented itself as a cultural centre with some interesting museums and galleries amongst the soviet architecture. The real and contrasting highlights are found outside of the city.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT

URAL HOTEL



Our hotel of choice in Perm's limited offering. Good size rooms and centrally located. A bit basic but you are in the Northern Urals.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 21

PERM

- Day trip to Perm 36 Gulag, Kungur Ice Cave & Belogorsky Monastery.

An early start today driving 2 hours out of the city to Perm 36 Gulag Camp Museum. The museum occupies the former site of one of the most notorious Soviet gulag camps in the European part of Russia and is now privately operated by descendants and friends of the former inmates. The camp remained open until the Gorbachev era, and housed many prisoners from former USSR republics who had lobbied for independence from the Soviet Union. In common with most Gulags the location is very remote and the roads which lead to it are poor.

After the sobering experience of Perm 36 we drive a further two hours to the Kungur Ice Cave with its spectacular formations and dramatic lighting. You will need decent shoes and warm clothing as even in summer is cold in the cave.

Drive on an hour to Belogorsky Monastery located on top of a hill with spectacular views of the rolling landscape of the Urals. The monastery was dedicated to the miraculous escape of young Crown Prince Nicholas (the future Tsar Nicholas II) from an assassin, during a visit to Turkey. Evening return to Perm to overnight.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT

URAL HOTEL



Our hotel of choice in Perm's limited offering. Good size rooms and centrally located. A bit basic but you are in the Northern Urals.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked





Averages

Max temp °C

Min temp °C

Rainfall mm

| | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Max temp °C | -10 | -8 | 0 | 9 | 16 | 22 | 24 | 20 | 14 | 6 | -3 | -8 |
| Min temp °C | -16 | -15 | -8 | -1 | 6 | 12 | 14 | 12 | 6 | 1 | -8 | -14 |
| Rainfall mm | 32 | 29 | 17 | 21 | 29 | 34 | 33 | 47 | 32 | 39 | 28 | 32 |

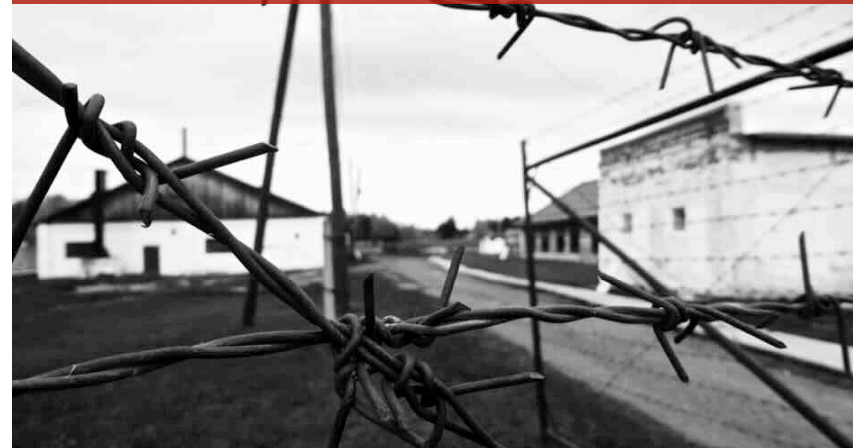
KUNGAR ICE CAVES



COUNTRYSIDE



PERM 36 GULAG



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 22

ON THE TRAIN

- Short walking tour before the a train on to Moscow.

After an early breakfast begin a short walking tour of the city visiting the Central Square and Opera & Ballet Theatre before walking along Sibirskaya Street, passing the hotel where Grand Prince Mikhail was arrested as well as the monument to his assassins. We will see the old riverboat station from where the Post Road to Siberia began and the Old Railway Station from where the original Trans-Siberian Railway line started.

Along the way we pass places associated with the story of Dr Zhivago including the Public Reading Room and Lara's House.

After the tour a transfer to the station for the train ride from Perm to Moscow, a scenic journey through Russia's vast landscapes. Traveling west, passengers enjoy views of the Ural Mountains, dense forests, and charming villages. Comfortable sleeper cabins, dining options, and traditional Russian hospitality make the trip enjoyable and relaxing.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT



TRAIN #109M

PERM - MOSCOW

Departs 11:31 Arrives 06:28 day 2
1,397 km / 868 ml | 20 hr 57 m | Local times & subject to change

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAINS](#)



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 23

MOSCOW

- Arrival in Russia's Capital & tour the Kremlin & Armoury, Metro & Red Square.

Early morning arrival at Moscow's large Yaroslavsky station where a driver will be meeting you to transfer you to the hotel to meet your guide. It is unlikely you can check in this early but your luggage will be stored.

Moscow, founded in 1147, grew from a small medieval town to the political and cultural heart of Russia. It became the capital in 1547 under Ivan the Terrible, survived invasions like Napoleon's in 1812, and transformed into a global power hub during Soviet rule, retaining its status today as Russia's capital.

Start a tour of Moscow which begins with a visit to Red Square, where you'll see iconic sites like St. Basil's Cathedral and the Lenin Mausoleum. Next, head to the Kremlin for a guided tour of its historic cathedrals, palaces, and the Armoury Museum, showcasing royal treasures, Fabergé eggs, and ceremonial weaponry.

In the afternoon, dive into the architectural beauty of the Moscow Metro, known for its opulent, museum-like stations such as Komsomolskaya and Mayakovskaya. Conclude the day by strolling through Alexander Garden for a visit to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, offering a fitting end to a day filled with Moscow's historic and cultural grandeur.

Return to your hotel to check-in and relax with the evening free.

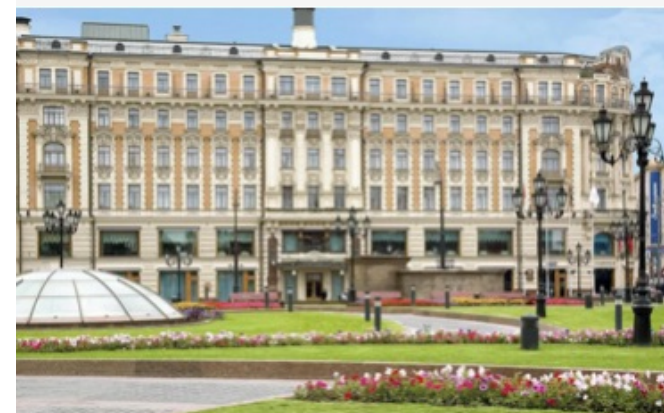
 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT

NATIONAL HOTEL



An historic luxury landmark, opulent rooms, stunning Kremlin views, exquisite dining, blending classic Russian elegance with modern amenities.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked





Averages

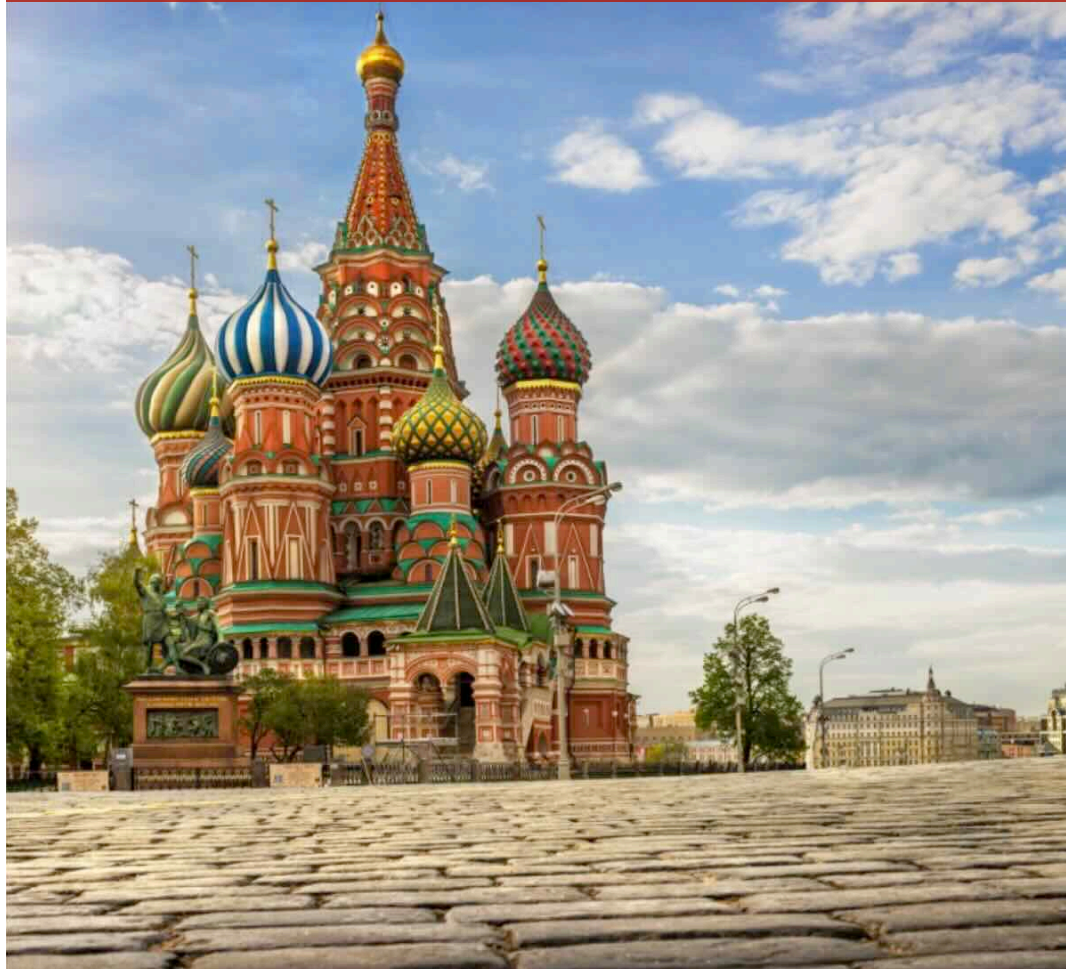
Max temp °C

Min temp °C

Rainfall mm

| | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-------------|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Max temp °C | -4 | -4 | 3 | 11 | 17 | 22 | 24 | 22 | 15 | 8 | 0 | -3 |
| Min temp °C | -9 | -11 | -6 | 1 | 6 | 11 | 13 | 11 | 6 | 2 | -5 | -8 |
| Rainfall mm | 45 | 45 | 32 | 31 | 58 | 73 | 79 | 75 | 62 | 77 | 45 | 40 |

ST BASIL'S CATHEDRAL



KREMLIN



BOLSHOI THEATRE



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 24

MOSCOW

- Free day to explore Moscow independently & enjoy its many sights.

Spend a free day exploring Moscow, a city rich in culture, history, and breathtaking architecture, with attractions to suit all interests and weather conditions. Art lovers can lose themselves in the vast collections at the Pushkin Fine Arts Museum, home to a broad array of European masterpieces, or admire the extensive display of Russian art at the Tretyakov Gallery. For those who relish outdoor experiences, Gorky Park provides an energetic atmosphere ideal for walking, cycling, or simply relaxing amidst nature, with its manicured gardens, riverside views, and vibrant street performers.

Take time to explore the intriguing Park of the Fallen Idols, where Soviet-era monuments and statues are displayed in a unique outdoor museum, offering a fascinating glimpse into the nation's past. The historic Novodevitchy Convent, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, invites peaceful reflection amid its picturesque grounds, historic buildings, and iconic cemetery.

If the weather turns inclement, seek refuge in the trendy Red October district, which offers a mix of chic bars, contemporary art galleries, and inviting cafes. Moscow's eclectic blend of tradition and modernity ensures an unforgettable day of exploration and discovery.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT

NATIONAL HOTEL



An historic luxury landmark, opulent rooms, stunning Kremlin views, exquisite dining, blending classic Russian elegance with modern amenities.

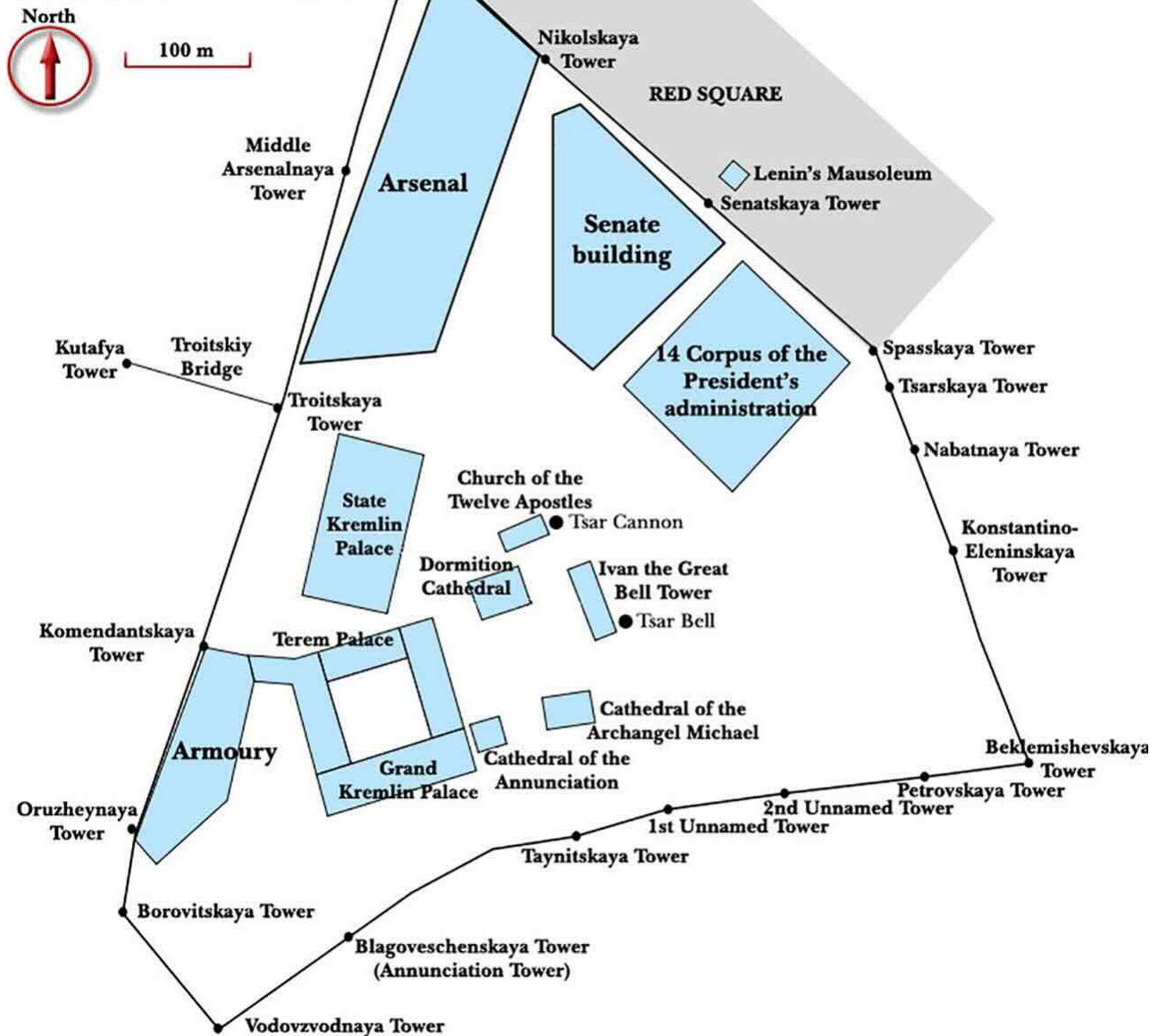


Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked



MOSCOW'S KREMLIN

The Moscow KREMLIN



MOSCOW'S KREMLIN - DID YOU KNOW ?

- The Kremlin is the oldest part of Moscow, with origins dating back to 1156, when it was a wooden fortress built by Prince Yuri Dolgorukiy. It has been rebuilt and expanded multiple times throughout its history.
- Covering an area of 27.5 hectares (68 acres), the Moscow Kremlin is the largest medieval fortress still in use today. Its walls stretch for 2.25 kilometres (1.4 miles), and it includes several palaces, cathedrals, and government buildings.
- The Kremlin walls are over 6 meters (20 feet) thick in places and contain 20 towers, each with its unique history. The Spasskaya Tower, added in 1491, is the most famous, featuring a clock and often seen as the main entrance to the Kremlin.
- Although not inside the Kremlin walls, Lenin's Mausoleum on Red Square is closely associated with the Kremlin. It houses the embalmed body of Vladimir Lenin, the leader of the 1917 Russian Revolution.
- There are numerous secret tunnels and rooms beneath the Kremlin. Some of these were built for military defence, while others were intended as escape routes for the tsars and Soviet leaders.
- The Kremlin has served as the political and spiritual heart of Russia for centuries. It was the residence of the tsars, the seat of Soviet power, and today, it houses the official residence of the President of Russia.

YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 25

ST PETERSBURG

- High-speed "Sapsan" train to beautiful St Petersburg.

Free time before your transfer to the "Sapsan" high-speed train for a comfortable and journey to St. Petersburg, taking just four hours. As you glide through Russia's picturesque countryside, you'll have a chance to relax and anticipate your next destination.

Arriving in the afternoon, you are welcomed into St. Petersburg, Russia's cultural jewel and one of the world's most stunning cities, renowned for its breathtaking architecture, grand palaces, and intricate canals. Often dubbed the "Venice of the North," it seamlessly combines imperial grandeur with vibrant contemporary life.

Upon arrival at the station, you'll be met by a private car and an English-speaking driver for your transfer to the hotel, ensuring a smooth and pleasant experience. With the rest of the day at your leisure, you have ample opportunity to begin exploring St. Petersburg's enchanting streets, dine at a riverside café, or simply unwind and absorb the city's rich atmosphere.

NOTE: On arrival in St Petersburg your driver will be waiting for you at the front of the train.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT

ROSSI HOTEL



A 4* option full of character with great rooms that blend the historic nature of the building with modern touches as well as a superb location.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 26

ST PETERSBURG

- **Tour of the city highlights including time spent in the Hermitage Museum.**

Today you have a tour of St. Petersburg's highlights which begins with a visit to the iconic Hermitage Museum, one of the world's largest and most prestigious art museums. Spend the morning exploring the Winter Palace and its vast collections, including masterpieces by Rembrandt, Da Vinci, and Michelangelo.

Next, take a leisurely walk along the Palace Square, admiring its neoclassical architecture, the Alexander Column, and the grandeur of the surrounding buildings. From there, stroll to the Church of the Saviour on Spilled Blood, a stunning example of Russian Orthodox architecture with its colourful onion domes and intricate mosaics.

This afternoon, visit the St. Isaac's Cathedral, famous for its massive gold dome and impressive views of the city from its colonnade. The tour continues with a peaceful boat ride along the Neva River and the city's picturesque canals, offering scenic views of St. Petersburg's elegant bridges and palaces.

End the day with a visit to the Peter and Paul Fortress, the birthplace of the city and home to the tombs of Russian tsars, including Peter the Great, before heading back to the heart of St. Petersburg. This tour provides a comprehensive glimpse into the cultural and historical treasures of the city.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT

ROSSI HOTEL



A 4* option full of character with great rooms that blend the historic nature of the building with modern touches as well as a superb location.



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Averages

Max temp °C

Min temp °C

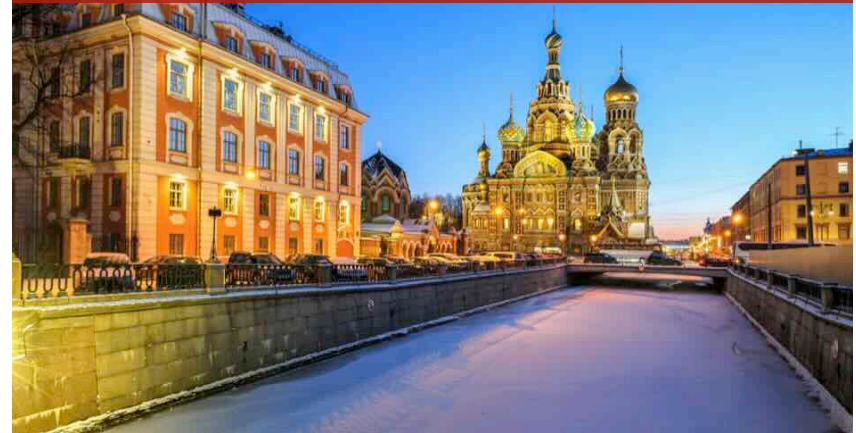
Rainfall mm

| | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
|-------------|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|----|
| Max temp °C | -2 | -2 | 3 | 10 | 16 | 20 | 23 | 21 | 15 | 9 | 2 | -1 |
| Min temp °C | -8 | -10 | -6 | 0 | 5 | 10 | 13 | 11 | 7 | 2 | -3 | -7 |
| Rainfall mm | 50 | 45 | 51 | 35 | 52 | 92 | 92 | 100 | 54 | 149 | 72 | 63 |

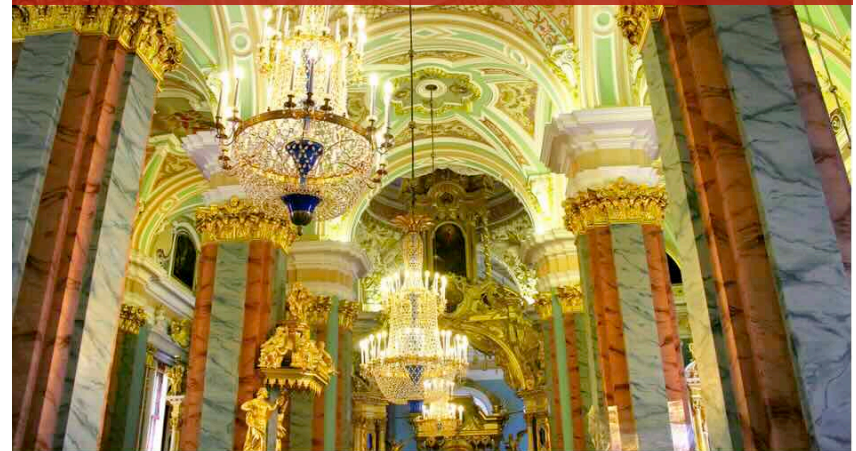
ST ISAAC'S CATHEDRAL



CHURCH OF SPILLED BLOOD



PETER & PAUL CATHEDRAL



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 27

ST PETERSBURG

- Private tour by car out of the city to Pushkin & Pavlosk palaces.

Today you have a private tour by car to Pushkin (Tsarskoye Selo) and Pavlovsk Palaces offering an intimate and luxurious journey into Russia's imperial past. Begin your day with a comfortable drive from St. Petersburg to the Catherine Palace in Pushkin, known for its breathtaking Baroque architecture and the stunning Amber Room, a masterpiece of amber panels, gold leaf, and mirrors. Enjoy a guided tour of the palace's opulent interiors, including the lavish Grand Hall, followed by a peaceful walk through the surrounding Catherine Park with its elegant pavilions and ornamental lakes.

Afterward, a short drive takes you to Pavlovsk Palace, the former residence of Emperor Paul I. This neoclassical masterpiece offers a more intimate yet equally fascinating experience. Explore the palace's art-filled rooms, including the beautiful State Rooms and the emperor's private chambers.

Following your palace tour, take a leisurely stroll through the Pavlovsk Park, one of Europe's largest landscaped parks, with charming rivers, bridges, and pavilions. Your private guide will share the rich history of both estates, providing exclusive insights into the lives of Russian royalty. Afterward return you to your hotel in St. Petersburg, completing a day of imperial elegance and personal discovery.

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

OVERNIGHT

ROSSI HOTEL



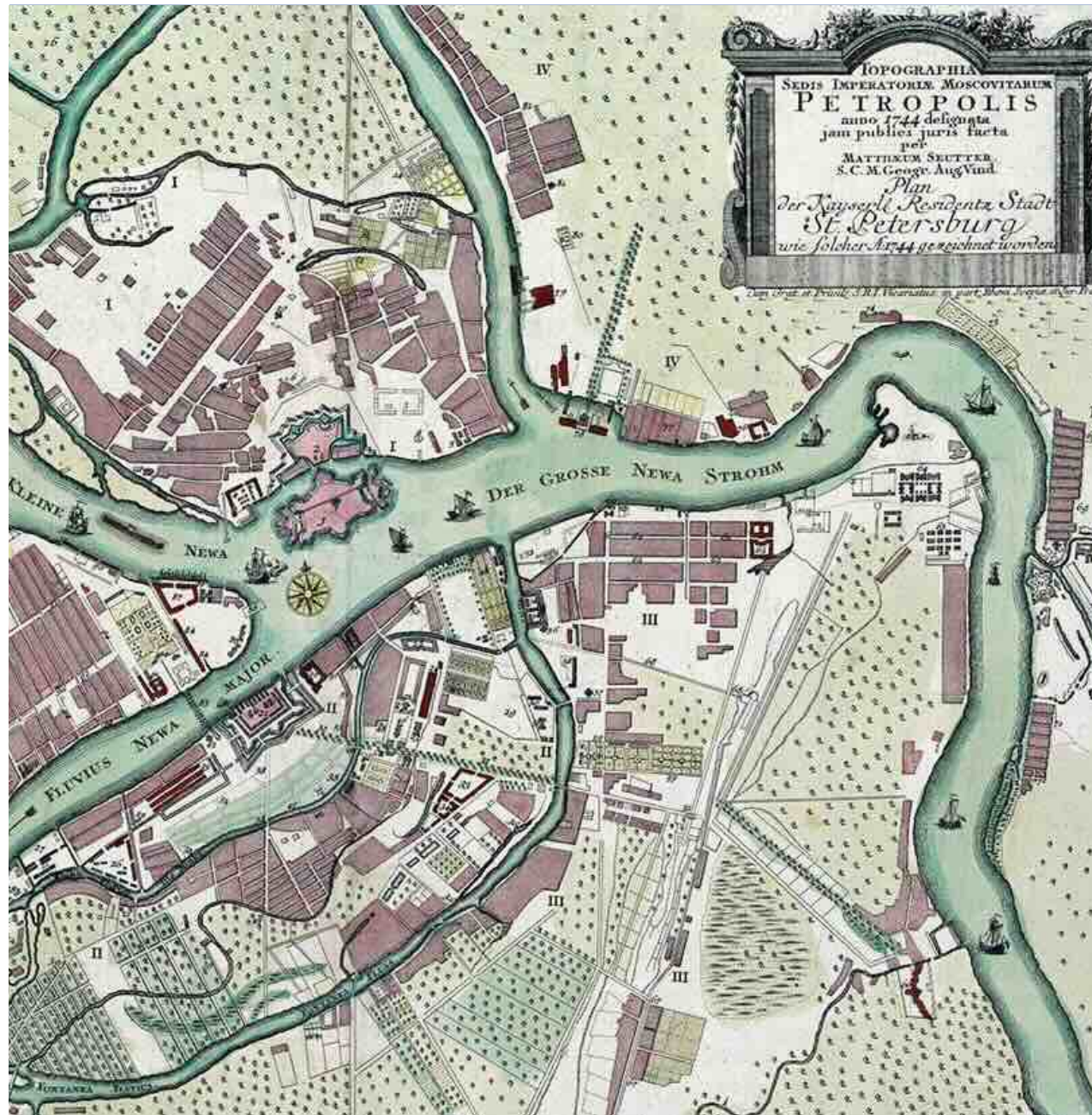
A 4* option full of character with great rooms that blend the historic nature of the building with modern touches as well as a superb location.



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked



THE BUILDING OF ST PETERSBURG



ST PETERSBURG - DID YOU KNOW ?

- St. Petersburg was founded by Tsar Peter the Great in 1703 as part of his vision to modernise Russia and open a “window to the West.” He chose the site along the Neva River for its strategic access to the Baltic Sea.
- The city was constructed on swampy land in the delta of the Neva River. This meant extensive groundwork was needed, and workers had to drain swamps and lay massive wooden foundations for stability, making construction extremely difficult and dangerous.
- The site of St. Petersburg was originally part of Sweden until Peter the Great seized it during the Great Northern War (1700–1721). The city was built partly as a military base to secure Russia’s presence on the Baltic Sea.
- Peter the Great sought to model the city after Western European capitals like Amsterdam and Venice, emphasising canals, grand boulevards, and baroque architecture. He hired architects from Italy, France, and other parts of Europe to design the city.
- To ensure enough stone was available for St. Petersburg’s construction, Peter the Great banned the use of stone for new building projects in other parts of Russia. Only St. Petersburg could use stone during its early years.



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 28

END

- Depart Russia after your epic Trans-Mongolian adventure!

Today is a free until a transfer to your onward travel from Russia. We sincerely hope that you will have enjoyed your epic journey as much as we have many times already and we look forward to welcoming you back on another one of our trips!

 **Meals Included:** Hotel Breakfast.

VIEW MORE FEEDBACK



Ute Wilson

"I want to thank you for my terrific, well organized, seamlessly smooth running Trans Siberian journey! Your organization was without doubt exceptional. I am working on my trip-diary, which already now brings back very special memories. Thank you so much, Ute."



- **Guide Price* per person based on 2 people travelling: UK £ 10,500 / US\$ 14,175**

Prices vary by date, availability and the number of people in your party. The price is based on travelling in your own two berth first class or sole occupancy of a four berth second class cabin on overnight trains which do not have two berth cabins (see inclusions for more details). A full list of what is included in this price can be seen on the following pages. Note that this does not include any international flights or visas.

- **Booking and payment terms:**

Once we receive completed booking forms we will book and confirm services for you and send an invoice for the deposit payment of 20% per person (plus any international flights we are booking) with full payment due 60 days before departure. All payments to us are protected under our ATOL or ABTA licenses and we accept payment by Credit Card, Debit Card or bank transfer.

- **Our pricing policy:**

We believe that the the pricing for this tour offers excellent value for the services and standards we operate and we frequently check our pricing against that of other operators. If you feel you have a similar quote that is of a lower price we are happy to reconsider our pricing for you if you can forward the other quote so we can fairly compare. We would add that in our experience we usually find some differences that, although they may appear subtle, make both a significant difference to the price and, more importantly, the quality of the trip experience.



INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS FOR THIS ITINERARY

Here you will find the inclusions and exclusions for this itinerary. We guarantee you will receive the services below although on very rare occasions one service may need to be replaced with another similar one as there are a lot of complex logistical elements to a trip like this.

- INTERNATIONAL PLANE TICKETS: Tickets for flights the start and finish of the above trip

Flight tickets to the start and finish of this trip are **NOT** included in this itinerary. We **CAN** arrange these for you.

- TRAIN TICKETS: [Click here to learn more about the trains](#)

The trains used below are subject to change and dependent on availability at the time the ticket is issued which is usually 90 days before the travel date. *First class 2 berth cabins can be very difficult to obtain and are not always added to many trains. When first class is not available we buyout a second class 4 berth cabin to give sole occupancy (based on 2 people travelling).

- ✓ Vladivostok to Khabarovsk - First class or second class BUYOUT - train 005Θ - Your own cabin (ticket given in Vladivostok)
- ✓ Khabarovsk to Ulan Ude - First class or second class BUYOUT - train 001Θ - Your own cabin (ticket given in Vladivostok)
- ✓ Ulan Ude to Irkutsk second class - Second class BUYOUT - train TBC - Your own cabin (ticket given in Ulan Ude)
- ✓ Irkutsk to Krasnoyarsk - First class or second class BUYOUT - train 009H - Your own cabin (ticket given in Irkutsk)
- ✓ Krasnoyarsk to Novosibirsk - Second class BUYOUT - train 009H - Your own cabin (ticket given in Irkutsk)
- ✓ Novosibirsk to Ekaterinburg - Second class BUYOUT - train 009H - Your own cabin (ticket given in Irkutsk)
- ✓ Ekaterinburg to Perm - Second class BUYOUT - train 145*Y or 803E - Your own cabin (ticket given in Irkutsk)
- ✓ Perm to Moscow - Second class BUYOUT - train 109M - Your own cabin (ticket given in Irkutsk)
- ✓ Moscow to St Petersburg - Business class seat on the "Sapsan" bullet train (4 hours) (ticket given in Moscow)

- ACCOMMODATION: Let us know if you have your own hotel preferences or wish to upgrade

- ✓ 1 night Vladivostok - Lotte Hotel ★★★★★ (standard room with breakfast)
- ✓ 1 night on the train Vladivostok to Khabarovsk (see cabin class in the train tickets section above)



INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS FOR THIS ITINERARY

- ✓ 1 night Khabarovsk - City Boutique hotel ★★★★★ (standard room with breakfast)
- ✓ 2 nights on the train Khabarovsk to Ulan Ude (see cabin class in the train tickets section above)
- ✓ 3 nights Ulan Ude - Baikal Plaza ★★★★★ (standard room with breakfast)
- ✓ 1 night Irkutsk - Irkutsk City Centre Hotel ★★★★★ (standard room with breakfast)
- ✓ 2 nights Olkhon Island - Lada Resort ★★ (twin rooms shared Siberian style toilet & sauna)
- ✓ 1 night Irkutsk - Irkutsk City Centre Hotel ★★★★★ (standard room with breakfast)
- ✓ 1 night on train Irkutsk to Krasnoyarsk (see cabin class in the train tickets section above)
- ✓ 2 nights Krasnoyarsk - Dom Hotel Neo ★★★ (comfort room with breakfast)
- ✓ 1 night Novosibirsk - Grand Autograph ★★★★★ (deluxe room with breakfast)
- ✓ 1 night on train Novosibirsk to Ekaterinburg (see cabin class in the train tickets section above)
- ✓ 3 nights Ekaterinburg - Onegin Hotel ★★★★★ (standard room with breakfast)
- ✓ 2 nights Perm - Ural Hotel ★★★ (Business room with breakfast)
- ✓ 1 night on train Perm to Moscow (see cabin class in the train tickets section above)
- ✓ 2 nights Moscow - National Hotel ★★★★★ (standard room with breakfast)
- ✓ 3 nights St Petersburg - Rossi Hotel ★★★★★ (deluxe room with breakfast)

■ TRANSFERS: Private with driver and an English speaking guide (except where stated)

- ✓ Vladivostok - Airport to Hotel
- ✓ Vladivostok - Hotel to Train Station
- ✓ Khabarovsk - Train Station to Hotel
- ✓ Khabarovsk - Hotel to Train Station
- ✓ Ulan Ude - Train Station to Hotel
- ✓ Ulan Ude - Hotel to Train Station
- ✓ Irkutsk - Train Station to Hotel in Irkutsk
- ✓ Irkutsk - Hotel to Accommodation on Olkhon Island
- ✓ Olkhon Island - Accommodation on Olkhon Island to Hotel in Irkutsk
- ✓ Irkutsk - Hotel to Train Station
- ✓ Krasnoyarsk - Train Station to Hotel



INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS FOR THIS ITINERARY

- ✓ Krasnoyarsk - Hotel to Train Station
- ✓ Novosibirsk - Train Station to Hotel
- ✓ Novosibirsk - Hotel to Train Station
- ✓ Ekaterinburg - Train Station to Hotel
- ✓ Ekaterinburg - Hotel to Train Station
- ✓ Perm - Train Station to Hotel
- ✓ Perm - Hotel to Train Station
- ✓ Moscow - Train Station to Hotel
- ✓ Moscow - Hotel to Train Station
- ✓ St Petersburg - Train Station to Hotel
- ✓ St Petersburg - Hotel to Airport

■ TOURS: All our tours include entrance fees and use professional, licensed guides

- ✓ Vladivostok - 4 hour private tour of the city's highlights as described.
- ✓ Khabarovsk - Full day private tour of the city as described.
- ✓ Ulan Ude - 3 night private stopover including Ivolginski Datsan, the Old Believers village, Atsagatski Datsan & City tour as described.
- ✓ Irkutsk - 3 night private tour including city tour, fully guided 2 night trip to Olkhon Island and 1 night in Irkutsk as described.
- ✓ Krasnoyarsk - 2 night private stopover including a city tour and visits to Krasnoyarsk Dam and the Stolby National park as described.
- ✓ Novosibirsk - 1 night private stopover including a full day tour of the city & Akademgorodok as described.
- ✓ Ekaterinburg - 3 night private stopover including Countryside Village Trip, City Tour, Romanovs Graves & Europe Asia Border as described.
- ✓ Perm - 2 night private stopover including tours to Perm 36, Kungur Ice Cave, Belogorsky Monastery & 2 hour city walking tour as described.
- ✓ Moscow - Full day private tour of the Kremlin including the Armoury, Red Square & Moscow Metro as described.
- ✓ St Petersburg - Full day private tour of Central St Petersburg including the Hermitage as described.
- ✓ St Petersburg - Full day private tour to Pushkin & Pavlosk Palaces as described.



INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS FOR THIS ITINERARY

■ OTHER INCLUSIONS: Also included in this trip

- ✓ Meals - As indicated in the itinerary.
- ✓ Visa Paperwork - Confirmation documentation you need in order to get the visas.
- ✓ Support - Emergency numbers and contacts for each destination.
- ✓ Guidebook - Our exclusive Trip Guidebook personalised to your trip.
- ✓ Financial Peace of Mind - All monies paid to us are legally protected under UK law.

■ NOT INCLUDED IN THIS TOUR

- ✗ International Airfare to / from the start / finish of your trip - we can book these flights on request.
- ✗ The [Russian](#) visa - we can advise and partner with [VisaCentral](#).
- ✗ Travel insurance to cover any medical treatment.
- ✗ Discretionary gratuities to drivers and guides.

■ END



WHY BOOK WITH US ?

INDEPENDENT

As a family run company your business is important to us so we go to greater lengths to ensure you have the best possible experience.

PROTECTED

You are fully financially protected through our ABTA membership and ATOL bonding so you can book with us in confidence.

FLEXIBLE

We understand no two trips are the same and design a bespoke itinerary to meet your specific needs and requirements.

SUPPORT

All our trips come with 24 hour emergency assistance so you are looked after from start to finish & many clients rebook with us.

RESPONSIBLE

We strive to have a positive impact on the cultures and communities we send our customers to & prepare you for this.



WHY TAKE THE TRANS-SIBERIAN ?

CULTURE

Traverse vast landscapes, from the Ural Mountains to Siberian forests and Lake Baikal, witnessing the incredible diversity of Russia's natural beauty from the comfort of the train.

SCENERY

Experience the diverse cultures of Russia, Mongolia, and China by interacting with locals and fellow travellers, offering a unique cultural exchange across three countries on a single journey.

HISTORY

Follow a legendary route over 100 years old, tracing the Trans-Siberian Railway's historic path, which played a crucial role in connecting distant parts of Russia with Europe and Asia.

DESTINATIONS

Visit remarkable stops along the way, like Moscow, the heart of Russia; Irkutsk, near Lake Baikal; and Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, each offering a glimpse of unique regional cultures.

SLOW TRAVEL

The train offers a slow-paced, immersive travel experience with comfortable sleeper cabins, dining cars, and scenic views, providing the perfect opportunity to relax and unwind over long distances.



THE TRANS-SIBERIAN TRAINS

A Trans-Siberian trip is all about the trains and they are the hardest bit to get right. It takes years of experience and having actually tried and tested the trains to know which are the best options for each section of your trip. For the most part standards of rolling stock are good along all the rail routes. Life on board these trains is, as you would expect, a highlight of these trips and rarely disappoints. As a travel experience we think there is nothing quite like it.



CLASSES

We book 2 berth first class and 4 berth second class cabins.

SAFETY

A top priority for us & trains are well policed, safe & secure.

FOOD

Most trains have dining cars or you can bring on board.

FACILITIES

Each carriage has to washrooms which are functional but clean.

TIMINGS

We use the best timed options for each trip segment.

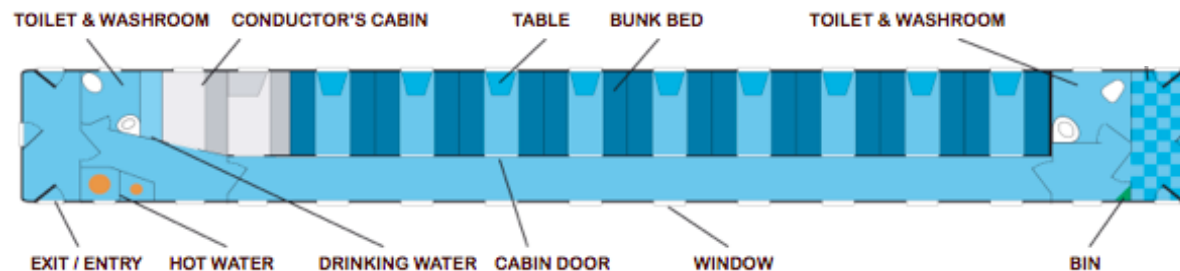
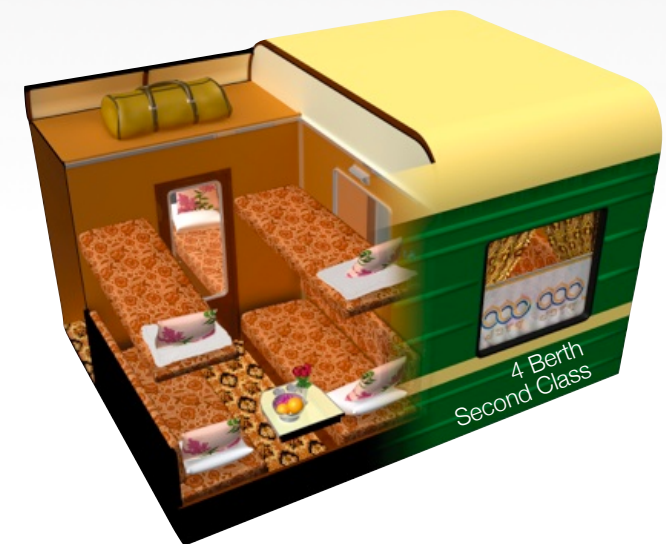
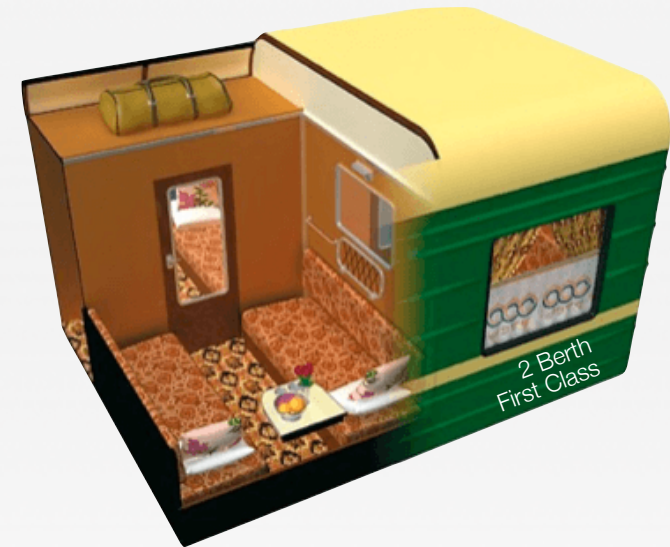
We use a large number of trains across our trips aiming to use the best possible option for each leg of the journey taking into account reliability of the timetable and obtaining tickets, the best and most practical departure and arrival times as well as safety and comfort. Between us we have travelled on almost all the trains we offer in all classes whether they be Russian, Mongolian or Chinese services.

Almost every train has a dining car and the trains we use are safe and secure with each carriage staffed by two Provodniks / Provodnitsa (conductors). We book both first class 2 berth and second class 4 berth compartments that are comfortable and have lockable doors and a large window for the fabulous views along the way.

Click here to visit the trains section of our website for much more information.

“We had first class transport for all but one leg of the journey. The trains were clean and easy to sleep on.”

Seanna Keeley







QUICK FACTS

Land Area: 17,098,242 sq km
Coastline: Approximately 37,653 km
Lowest Point: Caspian Sea at -28 m
Highest Point: Mt Elbrus 5,642 m
Time Zones: GMT +2 to +12 hours

Population: 146,000,000
Life Expectancy Male: 66.5 years
Life Expectancy Female: 77.1 years
Airports: 1,218
Railways: 87,157 km
Highways: Around 1,529,000 km

VACCINATIONS

Vaccinations are generally not required for entry into Russia, but it is recommended to be up-to-date on routine vaccines like MMR (measles, mumps, rubella), diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, and influenza. Additional vaccines to consider based on your activities and areas of travel include Hepatitis A (for food and water safety), Hepatitis B, Rabies (especially for rural areas), and Tick-borne Encephalitis if you plan to hike or camp in forested regions during the spring or summer.

VISAS

Citizens from the United States, Canada, the UK, and EU, typically need a tourist visa to visit Russia. The visa application process requires an invitation letter (also known as a visa support document), a completed visa application form, a valid passport (with at least six months remaining after the visa expires), a passport-sized photo, and proof of travel insurance. Processing can take from a few days to several weeks, depending on the country and service chosen. This [Wikipedia link](#) is useful.

WHEN TO VISIT

The best time to travel the Trans-Siberian Railway is late spring (May) or early autumn (September), when temperatures are mild, and landscapes are at their most scenic, with blooming flowers or vibrant fall colours. These months avoid the extreme cold of winter and the summer tourist season. June to August is also pleasant but busier, while winter (December to February) offers a magical snow-covered journey, though temperatures can drop below -20°C.

ELECTRICITY & PLUGS

Russia uses 220V, 50Hz electricity. Plugs are Type C (European) and Type F, both with two round pins. These are standard in most European countries.



Type C



Type F

MONEY TO TAKE

When visiting Russia, it's useful to carry Russian rubles (RUB) for smaller purchases, especially in rural areas. Major cities like Moscow and Saint Petersburg widely accept credit and debit cards. ATMs are readily available for cash withdrawals, and Visa and MasterCard are the most commonly accepted cards. It's advisable to exchange some currency before arrival or use ATMs for rubles. Inform your bank about your trip to avoid card issues abroad.





HOW FAR IN ADVANCE DO I NEED TO BOOK?

The Trans-Siberian can be quite a complex trip with a definite peak season when tickets and good hotel rooms can become scarce so we recommend booking as far in advance as possible if you are travelling from June to the end of September. Outside of this period we still recommend booking at least 2 months in advance to allow plenty of time to obtain the visas.

CAN YOU OBTAIN THE VISAS FOR US?

We have a partnership with the visa agents [CIBT Visa Central](#) who will guide you through the visa application process. As you are likely to be obtaining more than one visa for a Trans-Siberian trip it makes sense to make use of a specialised visa agent who will do the leg work running between the various embassies.

IS IT SAFE TO BOOK WITH YOU?

In a word, Yes! We members of ABTA and ATOL Bonded so any payments made to us are fully protected in the unlikely event of our financial failure. Our ABTA membership number is [Y1699](#) and our ATOL license number is [10287](#).

WHAT IS THE BEST TIME OF YEAR TO TRAVEL?

The summer months from June to the end of August are generally considered the best and are certainly the busiest. However, catching the Autumn colours from early September is probably our favourite time to visit Russia although Mongolia can already be cold. China tends to be best in September and October although do try and avoid the week long National Day holiday during the 1st week of October. Don't forget that Siberia looks stunning in winter!

DO YOU HAVE FINANCIAL PROTECTION?

In a word, Yes! We members of ABTA and ATOL Bonded so any payments made to us are fully protected in the unlikely event of our financial failure. Our ABTA membership number is [Y1699](#) and our ATOL license number is [10287](#).

BEYOND THE TRANS-SIBERIAN?

Yes, we can book flight or train tickets to onward destinations and we are also specialist China tour operators through our sister tour operator, [THE CHINA TRAVEL COMPANY](#).

IS IT WORTH TRAVELLING IN WINTER?

Oh Yes! Siberia looks amazing, a ger stay in Mongolia is the definition of cosy and Beijing is cold but dry and sunny. All three countries are very used to dealing with winter making the experience more comfortable than you might think.

DO THE TRAINS HAVE PLUGS FOR RECHARGING?

As a rule, yes although if there are 4 of you in a cabin you will need to take turns - or bring an extension plug! You can also ask your provodnitsas nicely if you can use her plugs but that will depend on the individual and they may expect a tip for this.

IS TRANS-SIBERIAN TRAVEL SAFE?

Yes! In recent years we hear of very few problems either on the stops or the trains and there is no reason why you should not feel as safe if not safer than if travelling in your home country. This applies to men or women traveling alone and exercising reasonable common sense.





WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FIRST & SECOND CLASS?

First and second class cabins are the same size and tend to have similar facilities with the only real but big difference being that 2nd class cabins have 4 berths and first class 2 berths. So a couple get privacy and space in first class. A first class carriage will also have less competition for bathroom although this is not usually a big issue or a particular reason to go first class. Second class is arguably more social.

WHAT HAPPENS ONCE WE MAKE A BOOKING?

On taking a booking we will confirm as many of the services as can be at that point and then ask you for a non-refundable deposit of 20% per person plus any international flights we are booking with the final balance payment due 60 days before your trip start date with us. On booking we will also offer advice about obtaining the visas and about 1 month before your trip with us starts we will send you our exclusive Trip Guidebook tailored to your specific trip with us.

CAN YOU BOOK INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS ?

Yes, as we hold an ATOL license (number 10287) we are permitted by the Civil Aviation Authority in the UK to book flights on behalf of our clients. We are a British Airways preferred operator but also book with other airlines to get the best deals and routes for our clients.

WILL MY PHONE WORK ?

Yes and you will find coverage is surprisingly good all the way along the train routes and in cities. If you buy a SIM card make sure you are buying for the right phone system as some mobile companies in Mongolia, for example, operate on GSM (same as UK, Europe) and others CDMA (North America and Japan). You should also check what roaming charges will be with your mobile provider.

WHY SHOULD WE BOOK A TRIP WITH YOU

We took our first Trans-Siberian trip in 1997 and between us have taken many trips since. We have been to all destinations we offer, often many times, and are passionate about sharing our knowledge and providing you with the best possible travel experience of these destinations which we love to visit ourselves. Add to this the back up we offer from financial protection of your payments to us to the 24 hour emergency numbers we give you before your trip and we think we are the full package for quality, service and reliability.

HOW MUCH MONEY WILL I NEED TO TAKE WITH ME?

The bulk of your costs are taken care of when booking with us so you will only be spending on day to day expenses such as additional meals, drinks, souvenirs and any entrance fees on free days. Russia is expensive and it is easy to go through £50 a day in Moscow although less elsewhere. Mongolia is likely to be cheapest as there isn't that much to spend money on in the countryside. China is between the two with spending from about £30 a day upwards as an approximate guide. On the train it would be difficult to spend more than £20 a day.

DO YOU CATER FOR VEGETARIANS?

As long as we are informed at the time of making your booking we can cater for almost all dietary requirements.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I SHOULD BE ASKING?

Almost certainly! We fully expect you will have many more questions and we are here to answer them so please do not hesitate to [contact us](#) - that is what we are here for!





THROUGH SIBERIA BY ACCIDENT

DERVLA MURPHY

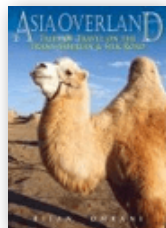
Excellent account of Siberia and in particular the remote and rarely traveled Baikal Amur Line (BAM). Well researched and full of character this book brings Siberia alive through the descriptions of the characters she meets along the way.



TRAVELS IN SIBERIA

IAN FRAZIER

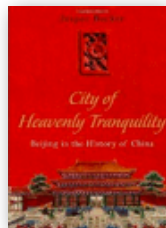
Frazier reveals Siberia's role in history, its science, economics, and politics. Traveling by car rather than train from St Petersburg to Vladivostok in five weeks in one of the most humorous, informative and hugely entertaining of Trans-Siberian books.



ASIA OVERLAND

BIJAN OMRANI

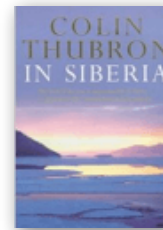
Tales of Travel on the Trans-Siberian and Silk Road. This title offers a travel companion and historical travelogue. It is resourced from travel luminaries: George Kennan to Anton Chekhov, Fa Xian to Marco Polo and Matteo Ricci.



THE CITY OF HEAVENLY TRANQUILITY

JASPER BECKER

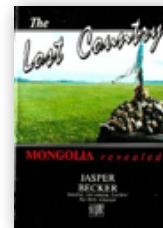
One of the best books devoted to Beijing and an entertaining historical account of the city that will give some real insight into what makes Beijing tick. The range is almost up to the modern day which gives the reader a good idea of what Beijing has been through.



IN SIBERIA

COLIN THUBRON

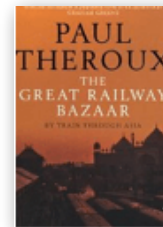
One of the books about Siberia as Thubron delves far deeper than the average travel writer trying to understand the essence of the people that live there and the land they live in. Quite a dark read but perhaps essential to understand.



THE LOST COUNTRY: MONGOLIA REVEALED

JASPER BECKER

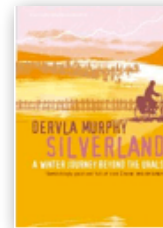
Another Becker offering covering the history of Mongolia through his travels there in the early 90's. It is full of anecdotes and historical stories of the strange and bizarre and offers a good grounding in Mongolia up until the early years after the fall of the Soviet Union.



THE GREAT RAILWAY BAZAAR

PAUL THEROUX

One of the classic travel books about the Trans-Siberian. If you like this Riding the Iron Rooster and the more recent Ghost Train to the Eastern Star are superb, the latter revisiting the travel of The Great Railway Bazaar some 30 years later.



SILVERLAND

DERVLA MURPHY

Extraordinary expedition in winter beyond Siberia to the furthest corners of Russia. Here she discovers a strange world of lynx and elks, indigenous tribes and shamanism, reindeer broth and taiga-berry pie.

