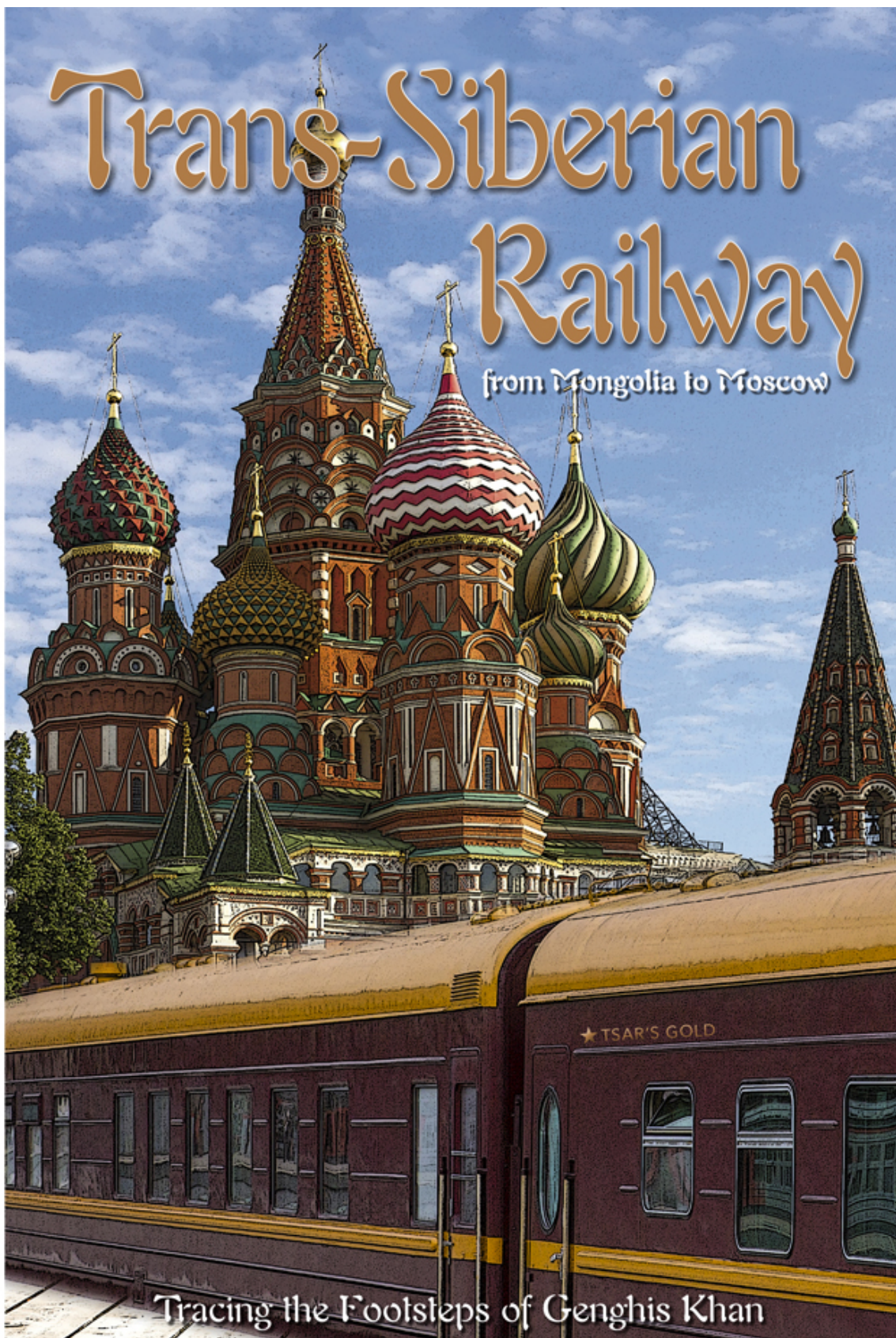


Trans-Siberian Railway

from Mongolia to Moscow



Tracing the Footsteps of Genghis Khan

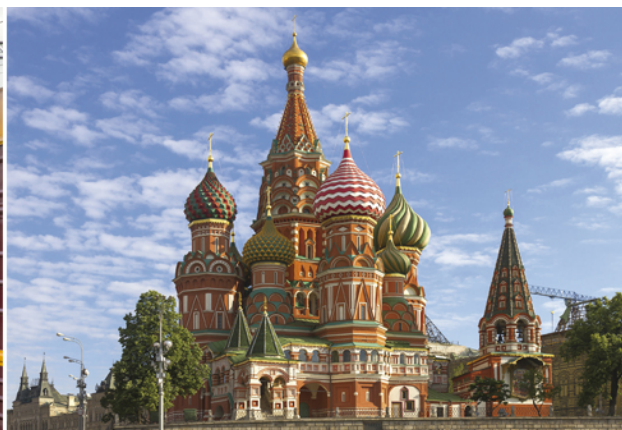
JULY 11, 2021 – JULY 24, 2021

PRE-TOUR: JULY 07, 2021 — JULY 13, 2021

POST-TOUR: JULY 24, 2021 — JULY 27, 2021

TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY

Embark upon an unparalleled journey through history on this legendary network of rails. Enjoy modern amenities, comfortable lodging, and exciting excursions as you leisurely traverse two continents by private train during this epic adventure.



Dear UCLA Alumni and Friends,

Join fellow alumni and friends for an unparalleled journey through history on the Trans-Siberian Railway—a legendary network of rails. Enjoy modern amenities, comfortable lodging, and exciting excursions as you leisurely traverse two continents by private train during this epic adventure—through the Mongolian steppes, along the remote shores of Lake Baikal, and deep into Russia.

Traveling by rail through the diverse eastern Siberian countryside is slow and rewarding, accented by a cultural cornucopia both on and off the train.

With local guides at each stop, explore city highlights like the Choijin Lama Temple and Gandan Monastery, the Okhlopkov Drama Theatre and Taltsy Museum, and Russia's crown jewels: the Kremlin plus a private opening at St. Basil's Cathedral.

Your rail accommodations for this journey are on board the private *Tsar's Gold*, likely the most comfortable way to travel on the Trans-Siberian Railway. As the outside panorama glides by, take the opportunity to interact and engage with fellow travelers to discover respective cultures, partake in various

vodka tastings and traditional toasts, and perhaps learn a bit of the Russian alphabet during language presentations. During city overnights, relax in the modern comforts of 4- and 5-star properties featuring luxurious amenities, restaurants, and common areas.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than \$800 per couple, we anticipate this program will fill quickly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christel Aragon', with a stylized, flowing script.

Christel Aragon
Director, UCLA Alumni Travel

310-206-0613 | travel@alumni.ucla.edu

PS: Orbridge and UCLA take your health and wellness seriously. Visit orbridge.com/wellness to learn about our enhanced COVID-19 protocols.

Please note: The information contained in this document is current as of 1/28/2021

Program Highlights:

- During a city tour of Ulaanbaatar, visit the Choijin Lama Temple before experiencing a performance of traditional Mongolian folk arts.
- Travel to the Mongolian Alps to wonder at the majestic landscape and otherworldly rock formations.
- Enjoy a special lunch in a Mongolian yurt.
- Delight in a variety of local musical performances throughout the program.
- Explore Lake Baikal—the largest freshwater reservoir in the world—during a boat excursion, followed by a picnic dinner on the shore (weather permitting).
- In Irkutsk, see the Okhlopkov Drama Theatre, the new memorial to Tsar Alexander III, and the market hall during a panoramic city tour.
- Join a local family in their home for a traditional meal, and learn more about their daily life and customs during this cultural immersion opportunity.
- Partake in a vodka tasting accompanied by traditional Russian snacks and red caviar while traversing the diverse eastern Siberian countryside.
- Celebrate with a champagne toast while crossing the border between two continents—Asia and Europe.
- While in Yekaterinburg, view the Church of All Saints—built to commemorate the lives lost of Russian Tsar Nicholas II and his family in 1918.
- During a tour of Kazan, see the Tatar mosques and the most famous Russian Orthodox cathedral. Also tour Kazan's Kremlin and learn about the turbulent history of the relationship between the Tatars, the Cossacks, and the Russians.
- Meet a local guide in Moscow to explore Red Square, the Kremlin, and Moscow City.
- **What's Included:** 5 nights hotel accommodations and 7 nights aboard the *Tsar's Gold*; a welcome reception, 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches, and 10 dinners (including beer and wine while onboard the train); full guiding services of an Orbridge Travel Director as well as expert local guides; admission to all activities and tours as described in the 14-day itinerary; private motor coach transportation for sightseeing tours; gratuities for Orbridge Travel Director, onboard guides, drivers, porters, housekeeping staff, *Tsar's Gold* attendants, and wait staff for included meals; airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.



Itinerary:

Day 1: En Route from U.S.†

Sunday, July 11, 2021

Day 2: Arrive Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Monday, July 12, 2021

Welcome to the diverse, sprawling capital of Mongolia—Ulaanbaatar. Not only is this culture-rich city Mongolia's industrial and financial heart, it's also the center of the country's road network and connected by rail to both the Trans-Siberian Railway in Russia and the Chinese railway system. World-class museums, traditional theatre, and international cuisine flourish in this vibrant location.

Transfer to your hotel to relax and settle in before joining fellow travelers for a welcome cocktail this evening.

The Blue Sky Hotel & Tower (R)

Day 3: Ulaanbaatar

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

After breakfast, enjoy the city of Ulaanbaatar and its architectural contrasts. See structures with elements of historic influence existing along with modern high-rise buildings.

Set out on a guided city tour to see the Buddhist monastery, Choijin Lama Temple. This site in downtown Ulaanbaatar has five temples, but is no longer a place of worship. Now it's a small museum that illustrates the area's historic feudal lifestyle. Exhibiting artifacts from destroyed monasteries, the rich collection features masks and robes associated with the religious Tsam dance. Art lovers will appreciate the Buddhist artifacts, wonderful embroidery, and appliqués.

Afterward, visit Parliament Square and the imposing statue of Genghis Khan, followed by lunch at a local restaurant.

This evening, attend a performance of traditional Mongolian folk arts, including dancing, the other-worldly sounds of throat singing, and music from the horse-headed fiddle. This unique instrument, called morin khuur in the Mongolian language, has only two strings and has figured prominently in Mongolia's nomad culture. Mongolian poet Tsendendorj Mishig celebrated the fiddle's power by writing, "Only its two strings express / All the events of the

world.”

Overnight: The Blue Sky Hotel & Tower (B,L,D)

Day 4: Gandan Monastery / Mongolian Alps

Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Today visit the Gandan Monastery—the center of Mongolian Buddhism and the only working monastery during the entire communist period. The name of this Tibetan-style Buddhist structure means “the big place of complete joy,” and hundreds of monks live here. Also housed here is a high statue of Megjid-Janraiseg, a sage representing compassion who leads the men on the way of truth. Depending on arrival time, it may be possible to observe a traditional Buddhist religious ceremony.

Afterward, journey 90-minutes east of Ulaanbaatar to the Mongolian Alps. Take time to observe the stunning scenery in every direction, including the mountains' majestic topography and bizarre rock formations. With rolling landscapes and grazing herds of animals watched over by men on horses, Mongolia to some looks and feels like Texas.

Visit a typical ger camp for a wonderful front-row seat to nomadic Mongolian life that is integral to the culture. Gers, built with wooden boards held together with rope made from horses' hair, can easily be moved around according to seasons and to follow cattle pastures. Gather around the ger's centrally located stove where food is cooked and dairy products are produced for sale.

At a picnic lunch served in a yurt camp, sample classic Mongolian specialties with rice and vegetables and possibly even their famous fermented mare's milk. Then attend a festival to view presentations on three national sports: wrestling, archery, and horse riding.

Next transfer to the train station to board Trans-Siberian Railway's *Tsar's Gold*. Get acquainted with your stateroom and unpack before dinner on board.

Overnight: Tsar's Gold (B,L,D)

Day 5: Ulan Ude, Russia

Thursday, July 15, 2021

Awaken to the train's steady hum and embrace the passing views of the Mongolian steppes. Travel through the valley of Mongolia's largest river, the Selenga. It's the most important of the 350-plus rivers that flow into biodiverse Lake Baikal, as it contributes almost 50% of Baikal's water.

At Ulan Ude, one of Eastern Siberia's most popular cities, the train reaches the main route of

the Trans-Siberian Railway. Disembark at the station for a guided city tour of Ulan Ude's main square—home to the largest bust sculpture of Lenin in all of Russia. Weighing 42 tons, this unique monument was constructed in 1970 in honor of the centenary of Lenin's birth. Also visit the local theatre, constructed during Stalin's time.

Overnight: Tsar's Gold (B,L,D)

Day 6: Lake Baikal

Friday, July 16, 2021

Today, explore the remarkable natural phenomenon of UNESCO World Heritage Site Lake Baikal, the largest freshwater reservoir in the world. It holds around 20% of the world's fresh surface water—more water than all of the North American Great Lakes combined. Lake Baikal represents the unspoiled beauty of Russia and is sometimes referred to as the "Sacred Sea." Travel directly alongside Lake Baikal on the old route of the Trans-Siberian Railway. During two extended photography stops, wander the lakeside and capture its seemingly endless beauty. Famous for its crystal-clear water and unique wildlife, you might witness a nerpa, or Baikal seal. This is the only seal that lives entirely in freshwater, and can remain underwater for up to an hour.

At one stop, embark upon a brief boat excursion from Port Baikal out onto the lake where the Angara River flows. Afterward, visit the picturesque Baikal village of Listvyanka to stroll the market, and for those seeking an extra adventure—take a plunge in the chilly water. Legend has it that the colbalt-blue waters have magical healing powers which give its swimmers extra years of life. Join in the thrill of a quick and bracing dip or simply have fun watching others do so.

Tonight, delight in a fun barbecue picnic dinner along the shoreline (weather permitting).

Overnight: Tsar's Gold (B,L,D)

Day 7: Irkutsk

Saturday, July 17, 2021

Welcome to Irkutsk, the capital of Eastern Siberia in Tsarist times. Amid the revived churches, 19th-century architecture, and classy eateries, join a local guide for a panoramic city tour. See the structurally impressive Okhlopkov Drama Theatre—the largest of its kind in Siberia—which opened in 1896, the new memorial to Tsar Alexander III, and the photogenic market hall—one of the main centers in the city selling fresh regional produce.

Then, visit the Taltsy Museum of Architecture and Ethnography—an open-air exhibition featuring the history and culture of the people of Eastern Siberia. The museum, located at a

picturesque site, is composed of more than 40 historical and architectural monuments and 8,000 exhibits that tell about the peculiarities of life, customs, and traditions of past residents of the Baikal region. View this impressive collection including two chapels, a church, a watermill, and the 17th-century Iliminsk Ostrog watchtower.

As an additional cultural immersion highlight today, join a local family in their home for a traditional meal with dessert, and learn more about their daily life and customs.

Overnight: Courtyard by Marriott Irkutsk City Center (B,L,D)

Day 8: Trans-Siberia

Sunday, July 18, 2021

Back on board the *Tsar's Gold*, the journey continues through many diverse landscapes of Eastern Siberia. Learn about the region through informational onboard lectures and partake in a vodka tasting with typical Russian snacks and red caviar. It's a delicious opportunity to experience first-hand Russia's festive customs of hospitality and clever toasts!

Overnight: Tsar's Gold (B,L,D)

Day 9: Novosibirsk

Monday, July 19, 2021

Arrive midday in Novosibirsk—Russia's third largest city and the principal cultural and educational center in Siberia. Locals will greet you with bread and salt in the customary Russian manner before the group sets out on a panoramic tour of the city, including the mighty Ob River, the town's authentic and local Central Market, and the internationally renowned Opera and Ballet Theatre. Gaze upon the theatre's dome, which is nearly 200 feet wide and more than 100 feet high, yet is supported by neither columns nor girders.

Overnight: Tsar's Gold (B,L,D)

Day 10: Yekaterinburg

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Toast with champagne while entering into Yekaterinburg, the capital of the Ural Federal District and the frontier between the Asian and European continents. This city is rich in history, being known as the home of over 600 historical and cultural monuments, Russia's first President, and the place where the Russian Tsar Nicholas II and his family were murdered in 1918. On a panoramic tour, view the Church of all Saints which was built in 2003 to commemorate this tragic and historic event.

Back on board, the passing landscape of the Ural Mountains unfolds as the journey continues across the European continent. The Urals rise like a long and narrow spine, forming a natural

divide between Europe and Asia. The mountain range is considered to be one of the most ancient on Earth and measures over 1,250 miles. More than 1,000 types of minerals can be found here.

Overnight: Tsar's Gold (B,L,D)

Day 11: Kazan

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

After breakfast, arrive in Kazan, the Tatar capital on the banks of the Volga River. Russia is a multi-ethnic and multi-faith country, and here during a guided city tour, see Tatar mosques and the famous Russian Orthodox Cathedral. Venture into Kazan's Kremlin to learn about the turbulent history of the relationship between the Tatars, the Cossacks, and the Russians. Hear a legend involving one of the city's most famous landmarks, Söyembikä Tower—a tragic story of unrequited love between Ivan the Terrible and a Tatar princess.

Overnight: Tsar's Gold (B,L,D)

Day 12: Moscow

Thursday, July 22, 2021

Bid the *Tsar's Gold* staff a fond farewell as you disembark in Russia's capital, Moscow, and meet a local expert guide for an exciting day of exploration. Join fellow travelers for a welcome lunch followed by a panoramic tour of Moscow City, the Novodevichy Convent, the Lubyanka (the former KGB headquarters), and other meaningful landmarks.

Dinner is on your own this evening with leisure time to see Red Square enchantingly illuminated at night. Did you know the name of Red Square comes from the Russian word "krasnyi," meaning "beautiful," and is not related to the color of the buildings? The buildings actually used to be white until late into the 19th century.

Overnight: Ararat Park Hyatt Moscow (B,L)

Day 13: Moscow

Friday, July 23, 2021

Today arrive at a centerpiece of Red Square—the iconic Kremlin. This large fortress contains five palaces, four cathedrals and 20 towers. It's where you can find the world's largest bell and the world's largest cannon by caliber, according to the *Guinness Book of Records*. Discover its armory chamber—a museum of items that had been preserved for centuries in the tsars' treasury and the patriarchal vestry. See displays of uniforms and regalia, coronation dresses, ceremonial armor, and the largest collection of gold and silverware made by Russian craftsmen.

Enjoy lunch before continuing the tour to see the world-famous, attractive underground Metro and bustling Arbat Street, which has existed since at least the 15th century, making it one of the oldest surviving streets of the Russian capital.

Tonight, join fellow travelers for a farewell dinner to reflect on the past two weeks of this phenomenal, enriching journey.

Overnight: Ararat Park Hyatt Moscow (B,L,D)

Day 14: Moscow / Depart for U.S.

Saturday, July 24, 2021

After breakfast, guests with flights departing during the suggested times take the complimentary transfer to the airport for flights home.

Guests continuing on the optional post-tour will transfer to St. Petersburg. *(B)*

†Travel time from the U.S. may take up to two days depending on flight schedules.

R = Reception, B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

(Itinerary subject to change.)

Activity Level:

Moderate

Guests should be comfortable boarding and disembarking trains without assistance, walking between cars while the train is in motion, and accessing upper bunk beds via a ladder (in stateroom categories where applicable). All hallways are narrow and have handrails, but train travel can be unpredictable and some unexpected movement may occur. We expect that guests can enjoy two hours or more of walking, are sure-footed on cobbled surfaces, and can walk up and down stairs without assistance. Due to the structure of some buildings, facilities for the disabled are limited.

What's Included:

- 5 nights hotel accommodations and 7 nights aboard the *Tsar's Gold*
 - A welcome reception, 12 breakfasts, 11 lunches, and 10 dinners (including beer and wine while onboard the train)
 - Full guiding services of an Orbridge Travel Director as well as expert local guides
 - Admission to all activities and tours as described in the 14-day itinerary
 - Private motor coach transportation for sightseeing tours
 - Gratuities for Orbridge Travel Director, onboard guides, drivers, porters, housekeeping staff, *Tsar's Gold* attendants, and wait staff for included meals
 - Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times
-

Your Guide(s):

Orbridge Travel Director



Every departure is accompanied by one of our premier Travel Directors, all of whom have extensive knowledge and experience as guides. Enriched by their accompaniment and enthusiasm, enjoy the cultures and locations you explore with added confidence, understanding, and appreciation.

Program Accommodations:

The Blue Sky Hotel and Tower – Ulaanbaatar



July 12 - July 13

This elegant, luxury hotel offers spacious and exquisitely designed guest rooms with dramatic city views, delectable dining options from Asian to Western, and inviting common areas. Located in the bustling Sukhbaatar District, this property is in the heart of Ulaanbaatar's leading shopping and business area.

Room Amenities: Individual climate control, floor-to-ceiling windows featuring city views, writing desk and chair, coffee table, TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, minibar, and en suite bathroom L'Occitane sundries and hair dryer.

Tsar's Gold Train



July 14 - July 16, July 18 - July 21

Welcome to a journey full of exciting experiences on board the *Tsar's Gold*. This private train trip is the most comfortable way to travel on the Trans-Siberian Railway. Khrushchev's "Red Tsars" were fond of their home comforts, and they liked to travel in style, too. The nostalgic style is maintained while providing guests with modern conveniences. You are traveling in an ambience in which Soviet VIPs would have felt at home, but with the comforts of the 21st century.

The *Tsar's Gold* offers pleasant accommodations, thoughtful service, beautiful views, and fresh cuisine designed by onboard chefs using locally sourced ingredients.

NOTE: There is no internet access on the train. However, you can bring a personal laptop and use the internet via your mobile phone or satellite, but only while the train is stopped at a station (mobile usage fees vary, depending on your provider, and can be relatively high).

STATEROOM CATEGORIES *(all dimensions are approximate and may vary according to different technical constructions of cars and staterooms)*

Superior Plus:

Centrally controlled climate for each car, view window, two lower beds, and a table. Luggage storage above door. One shared bathroom with toilet and sink located at each end of the Superior Plus car. One shared facility with shower and sink located at the other end of the car.

Stateroom size: approx. 24 sq. ft.

Bed size (L x W): 72.8" x 26.7"

Space between beds: 13.4"

Luggage compartment (above door) (L x D x W): 12" x 21" x 58"

Nostalgic Comfort:

Climate control, view window, upper and lower bunk beds, and a table and armchair. Luggage storage under lower bed. One shared sink and shower between two staterooms. One toilet and sink located at each end of the Nostalgic Comfort car.

Stateroom size: approx. 42 sq. ft.

Bed size (L x W): 73.6" x 31.4"

Luggage storage under the lower bed

Bolshoi:

Climate control, view window, upper and lower bunk beds, table and armchair, two wardrobes, and small private en suite bathroom with combination shower/toilet.

Stateroom size: approx. 60 sq. ft.

Bed 1 size (L x W): 72.4" x 47.2"

Bed 2 size (L x W): 68.5" x 31.4"

Wardrobe 1 (H x D x W): 18.1" x 33.5" x 13.8"

Wardrobe 2 (H x D x W): 65" x 33.5" x 13.8"

Luggage compartment (above door) (H x D x W): 8.7" x 17.7" x 46.5"

Bolshoi Platinum:

Climate control, view window, upper and lower bunk beds, table and armchair, two wardrobes, and private en suite bathroom with shower.

Stateroom size: approx. 77 sq. ft.

Bed 1 size (L x W): 72.4" x 47.2"

Bed 2 size (L x W): 68.5" x 32.2"

Wardrobe 1 (H x D x W): 19.7" x 33.5" x 24"

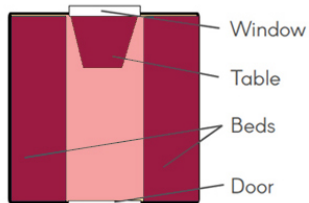
Wardrobe 2 (H x D x W): 61.4" x 33.5" x 24"

Luggage compartment (above door) (H x D x W): 8.7" x 17.7" x 46.5"

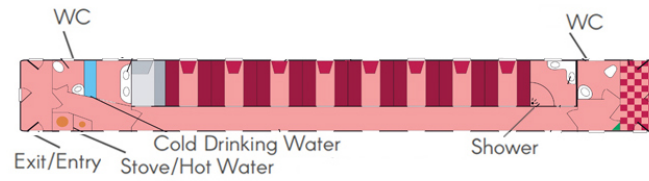
Bathroom Amenities: Shower towels provided on board are smaller than what Westerners are used to and are not replaced daily. The train does not provide hand towels or washcloths. Guests are encouraged to bring bathroom linens from home.

Hair dryers are not available on board.

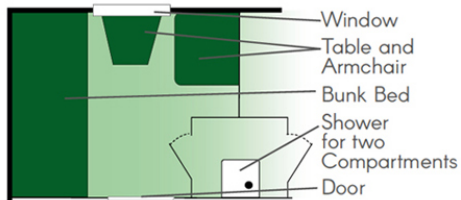
Superior Plus Stateroom Layout



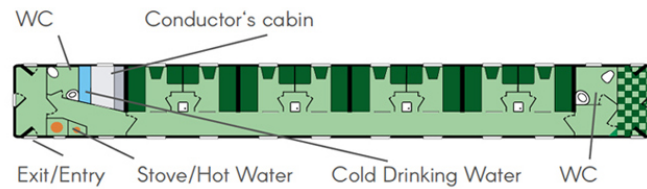
Car Layout



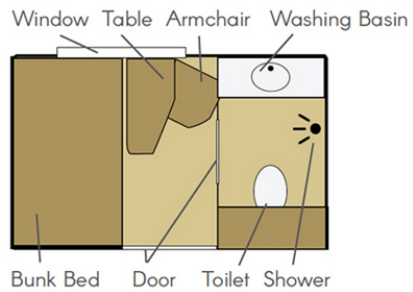
Nostalgic Comfort Stateroom Layout



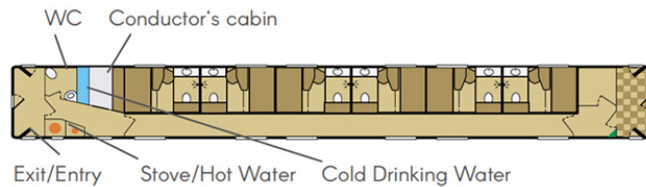
Car Layout



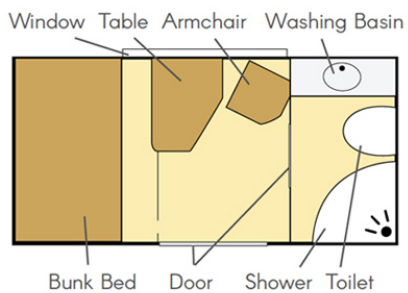
Bolshoi Stateroom Layout



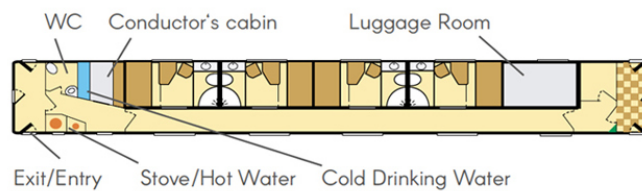
Car Layout



Bolshoi Platinum Stateroom Layout



Car Layout



Courtyard Irkutsk City Center

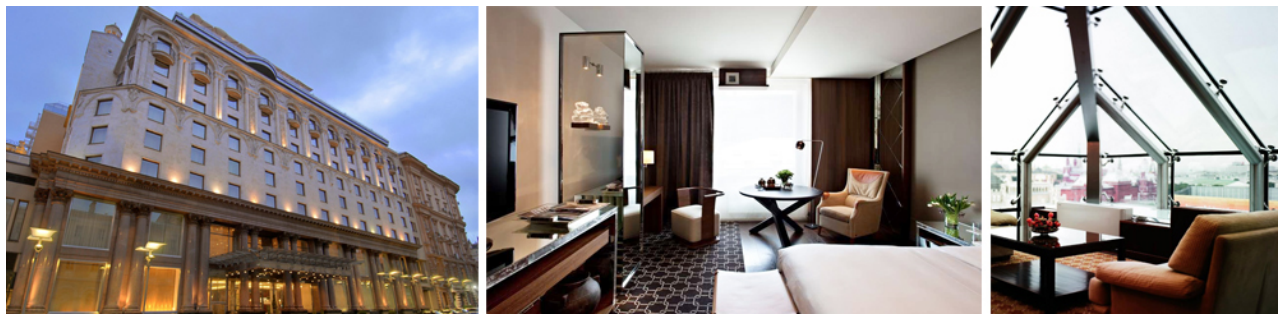


July 17

Ideally situated in central Irkutsk, this well-appointed hotel provides convenient access to local sites, and it's just 40 minutes from Lake Baikal. Sip an end-of-day cocktail at the laid-back Cedar Bar, and enjoy on-site dining at Mesto Vstrechi, which features Siberian cuisine.

Room Amenities: Individual climate control, writing desk and chair, cable/satellite TV, Wi-Fi (additional fee), phone, coffee and tea maker, mini-fridge, iron and ironing board, safe, and en suite bathroom with hair dryer.

Ararat Park Hyatt Moscow



July 22 - July 23

Enjoy the five-star luxuries and ideal location of Ararat Park Hyatt, a quick five-minute walk to the Kremlin and Red Square. The property features world-class amenities, including a heated indoor pool, well-equipped fitness room, spa, and Roman steam baths. Stop at the Conservatory Lounge and Bar during leisure time to glimpse the amazing views over the city.

Room Amenities: Individual climate control, writing desk and chair, wide screen TV, Wi-Fi (additional fee), phone, clock radio, minibar, microwave, coffee and tea maker, bathrobes and slippers, safe, and en suite bathroom with hair dryer.

(Accommodations subject to change.)

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Optional Pre-Tour:

BEIJING



Visit the political and cultural heart of China—Beijing, an area that blends rich history with modern lifestyles. Embrace the dynamic panorama featuring UNESCO World Heritage Sites, innovative architecture, and an array of impressive cuisine that will pique any palate.

Itinerary:

The itinerary for land touring is determined daily by the guide based on weather and crowd levels. The itinerary below is a general listing of sites and stops for this program.

Day +1: En Route from U.S.†

Wednesday, July 7, 2021

Day +2: Arrive in Beijing, China

Thursday, July 8, 2021

Take time to settle into your centrally located hotel to relax and refresh at leisure. Meet your local guide for a brief orientation of what's coming ahead for your time in Beijing.

Overnight: Capital Hotel

Day +3: Beijing

Friday, July 9, 2021

Following breakfast, set out to explore Beijing at leisure, as the hotel is within walking

distance of the Palace Museum, Qianmen, and Wangfujing shopping district.

This afternoon, meet a local guide for a panoramic city tour, including a stop at the Temple of Heaven.

Later, retreat to the hotel for a lovely champagne welcome toast and dinner with fellow travelers.

Overnight: Capital Hotel (B,D)

Day +4: Beijing

Saturday, July 10, 2021

Today's exciting highlight includes a visit to the Great Wall of China—the world's largest piece of ancient architecture. Admire the legendary scenery, and enjoy time to explore.

Afterward, stop at the iconic UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Ming Tombs, built by the emperors of China, and the stone memorial archway into the Sacred Way necropolis.

This evening, relish a dinner of traditional Peking Duck to celebrate an unforgettable day.

Overnight: Capital Hotel (B,L,D)

Day +5: Forbidden City / Gobi Desert

Sunday, July 11, 2021

After breakfast, join a local guide to see the infamous Tiananmen Square before visiting the Forbidden City—one of most renowned palaces on Earth. For centuries, the glorious, ancient halls and temples were all but inaccessible. The day is yours to explore this amazing area at leisure.

In the evening, board a special private Chinese train in Beijing and begin the journey to Mongolia. On the way, take in the fascinating landscapes of rural China and the surreal, sweeping sands of the Gobi Desert.

Overnight: Onboard Chinese train (B,L,D)

Day +6: Gobi Desert / Mongolia

Monday, July 12, 2021

Arrive midday at the Mongolian border. At the city of Erlian, stop for lunch before transferring to the *Tsar's Gold* private train for the journey to Ulaanbaatar.

On board, behold the dramatic expanses of the Gobi Desert and the epic green steppes of

Mongolia.

Overnight: Tsar's Gold (B,L,D)

Day +7: Ulaanbaatar / Main Program

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

After breakfast on board, transfer to the Blue Sky Hotel and Tower Ulaanbaatar to join fellow travelers on the main program for a guided city tour. (B)

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

†Travel time from the U.S. may take up to two days depending on flight schedules.

NOTE: Guests on the Beijing pre-tour will join guests on Day 3 of the main program.

This pre-tour is not escorted by an Orbridge Travel Director. Included sightseeing is accompanied by a local guide. Space is limited and not solely exclusive to Orbridge guests, so it's recommended to reserve early for best availability.

(Itinerary subject to change.)

Activity Level:

Moderate

Guests should be comfortable boarding and disembarking trains without assistance, and walking between cars while the train is in motion. We expect that guests can enjoy three hours or more of walking, are sure-footed on cobbled surfaces, and can walk up and down stairs without assistance. Due to the structure of some buildings, facilities for the disabled are limited.

Accommodations:

Capital Hotel



July 8 - July 10

Conveniently located in the central downtown area of Beijing, this hotel is within walking distance to many scenic spots, including Qianmen and Tiananmen Square. Its many distinctive restaurants serve a wide variety of Asian and Western food.

During leisure time, relax among the splendid gardens or take a dip in the indoor pool.

Room Amenities: Individual climate control, flat screen TV, phone, complimentary internet access, and en suite bathroom with sundries and hair dryer.

Chinese Train



July 11

Accommodations aboard this train include private double cabins with two lower beds, spacious shared washrooms (**no showers**) at both ends of the cabin carriage corridor, and breakfast served in the restaurant car. Coffee for breakfast is not typical in China and will not be available on this train.

Tsar's Gold



July 12

Please see the full Tsar's Gold accommodations details and descriptions under the main program section.

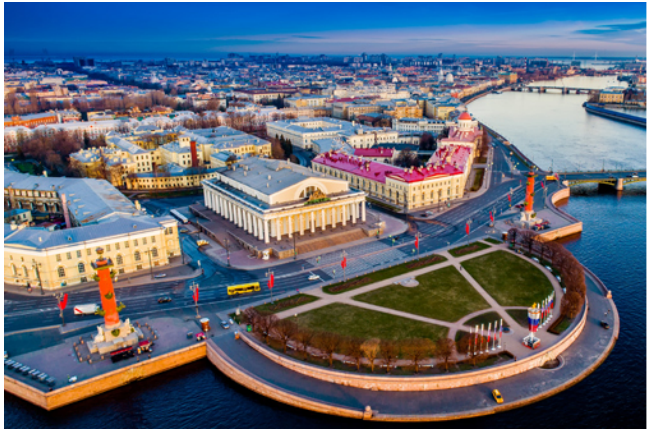
(Accommodations subject to change.)

What's Included:

- 3 nights accommodations at Capital Hotel (or similar), 1 night aboard a Chinese train, and 1 night aboard the *Tsar's Gold*
- 5 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 4 dinners
- Guided Beijing city tour, including Tiananmen Square
- Admission to Great Wall of China
- Visit to Ming Tombs, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Guided tour to the Forbidden City
- Train transport with private compartment between China and Mongolia
- Porter service while transferring between the Chinese train and the *Tsar's Gold*
- Airport transfer for guests arriving during the suggested times

Optional Post-Tour:

ST. PETERSBURG



Extend your adventure to explore St. Petersburg, referred to as *the Venice of the North* with its more than 300 bridges. This cultural capital of Russia seamlessly blends past and present—the UNESCO World Heritage Site of its historic city center, rich with untouched 18th- and 19th-century architecture, provides an unrivaled backdrop for modern events, such as contemporary art exhibits, music festivals, and theater performances. St. Petersburg is a bucket-list location for anyone interested in Russian history, culture, and sightseeing.

Itinerary:

Day 14: Depart Moscow / Arrive St. Petersburg

Saturday, July 24, 2021

After breakfast, board a high-speed train for St. Petersburg. Enjoy Business Class seating with lunch as you watch the passing landscape, traveling upwards of 155 miles per hour during this approximately five-hour journey.

In St. Petersburg, transfer to an ideally situated hotel with time to settle in and enjoy a leisurely evening.

Overnight: Hotel Astoria (L)

Day 15: St. Petersburg

Sunday, July 25, 2021

Today is highlighted by a private tour of the State Hermitage Museum with a local guide. This world-renowned, priceless collection occupies five historic buildings that contain more than three million exhibits, including the paintings of Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, and other famous masters. See the city's most precious monuments—rich with storied history and original architecture—at sites such as Nevsky Prospekt, Kazan Cathedral, the Winter Palace, Vasilyevsky Island, St. Isaac's Cathedral, and Peter and Paul Fortress.

The remainder of the evening is at leisure. Perhaps relax in a traditional Russian Banya (bath house) or dine at a restaurant overlooking the stunning Moyka River.

Overnight: Hotel Astoria (B,L)

Day 16: St. Petersburg / Tsarskoe Selo / Pushkin

Monday, July 26, 2021

After a leisurely breakfast, depart for the charming town of Tsarskoe Selo, the site of the Summer Palace—the previous residence of the imperial family.

Adjourn to a log cabin for a special lunch before continuing to Pavlovsk, a municipal town that was the former residence of the Emperor Paul I. Visit the classical-style Emperor's palace, dating back to the late 18th and early 19th centuries, and stroll through the stunning park—the entire site of which is a UNESCO World Heritage attraction.

Overnight: Hotel Astoria (B,L)

Day 17: Depart St. Petersburg

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

After breakfast, guests departing during the suggested times transfer to St. Petersburg's Pulkovo International Airport for flights home. (B)

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch

This post-tour is not escorted by an Orbridge Travel Director. Included sightseeing is accompanied by a local guide. Space is limited, so it's recommended to reserve early for best availability.

(Itinerary subject to change.)

Activity Level:

Moderate

We expect that guests can enjoy three hours or more of walking, are sure-footed on

cobbled surfaces, and can walk up and down stairs without assistance. Due to the structure of some buildings, facilities for the disabled are limited.

Accommodations:

Hotel Astoria



July 24 - July 26

Experience genuine Russian hospitality at this grand property, directly across from St. Isaac's Cathedral and a short walk from Nevsky Prospekt, Palace Square, and the Mariinsky Theatre. During free time, sip afternoon tea in the Rotunda Lounge, indulge in a service at the tranquil spa (additional fees apply), or enjoy retail therapy within the hotel's glamorous shopping arcade.

Room Amenities: Individual climate control, courtyard view, TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, minibar, phone, safe, bathrobes and slippers, and en suite marble bathroom with Ferragamo sundries and hair dryer.

(Accommodations subject to change.)

What's Included:

- High-speed train transfer in Business Class with lunch from Moscow to St. Petersburg
- 3 nights accommodations at Hotel Astoria (or similar) with breakfast each morning
- 3 breakfasts and 3 lunches, with 1 lunch served in a log cabin
- Private guided tour of the State Hermitage Museum
- Outside visit of the Summer Palace
- Inside visit to Pavlovsk Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Airport transfer for guests departing during the suggested times