



PALACE TOURS

Golden Eagle Luxury Train: Single-Departure Journeys

Land of the Midnight Sun / 11 nights Moscow-St Petersburg

Tour Dates

2017: June 15-June 26

Price

Starting from \$11,995



Venture into the Arctic Circle for a remarkable journey to celebrate White Nights season as you search for the famed Midnight Sun aboard the *Golden Eagle* luxury train. This is a picturesque and unique adventure that takes you across remote areas, breathtaking scenery, and famous cities such as Moscow and St. Petersburg. Once in Kirkenes, Norway you will have the chance to take a boat cruise in search of the Midnight Sun. Traveling through the ever-changing scenery of this unique landscape by luxury rail, you will experience an indulgent, unforgettable, and authentic adventure. The *Golden Eagle* provides three categories of private, en-suite cabins, a Bar Car lounge, and fine dining in the Restaurant Cars. Spend your days aboard the train in comfort, attending activities such as language lessons and lectures, or mingling with other passengers as you enjoy the music from the resident pianist in the evenings. Experience the Land of the Midnight Sun by luxury rail, an experience like no other.

Price Details

Prices in US Dollars

Silver Class (Twin)	Silver Class (Single)	Gold Class (Twin)	Gold Class (Single)	Imperial Class (Twin)	Imperial Class (Single)
\$11,995	\$16,995	\$13,995	\$19,995	\$22,295	On Request

Itinerary

Day 1: Moscow

Today you begin your exciting journey north in the metropolitan city of Moscow. You will be transferred from the airport to the luxurious and centrally located Moscow Ritz-Carlton (or similar). Here you will enjoy a champagne drinks welcome reception with other guests, and relax before tomorrow's activities. Later, an exclusive Welcome Dinner will set a high standard for the rest of the trip with specially selected international wines, which will be available with meals for the duration of the tour.

Day 2: Moscow

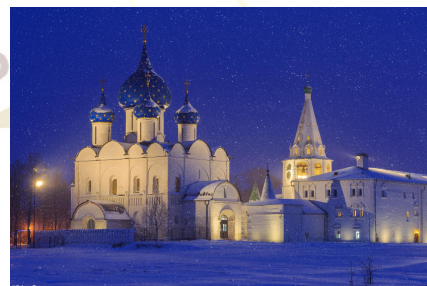


Tour the historic city of Moscow and explore its interesting politics and architecture. Visit the impressive Kremlin where it overlooks the Moskva River. Enjoy a private viewing of the Armory Chamber, which houses treasures of the Tsars, before it opens to the public. Other iconic sites include Red Square, Lenin's tomb, St. Basil's Cathedral, and the famous GUM department store. You will also have a tour of Moscow Metro stations, world renowned as showpieces of socialist art. You will be in awe at the statues, frescoes, mosaics, and extravagant architecture and

design comprising these stations. Return to your hotel for the night.

Day 3: Vladimir, Suzdal

Today you will travel by train to Vladimir, a historic city founded in 990. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Vladimir is one of the ancient Golden Ring cities of Moscow. Here you will visit Uspensky Cathedral, a beautiful site that is over 600 years old, and where many Tsars were crowned. Next you will head to the walled city of Suzdal, founded in 1024 and home to the St Euthymius Monastery. Here you will have the opportunity to attend a traditional church choral performance. An enchanting experience, the culture of this city will captivate you.



In the evening you return to Moscow and board your luxury train, the *Golden Eagle*. Make yourself at home as you prepare to embark on your northern adventure.

Day 4: Petrozavodsk, Kizhi Island

Explore the Russian city of Petrozavodsk on the shores of Lake Onega as you head north towards the Arctic Circle. Enjoy a private folk performance at Kantele House and then take a hydrofoil to Kizhi Island. This small island is home to a Museum of Wooden Architecture, where you can see the 1714 Church of the Transfiguration, before returning to your train for the evening. The Church of the Transfiguration was built entirely out of wood without any nails and has twenty two domes stretching impressively above it. It is one of very few left of its kind.

Day 5: Murmansk

Relax on your train as it continues north towards the city of Murmansk. View breathtaking scenery as you socialize in the Bar Lounge Car or attend a lecture. When your train reaches the Arctic Circle there is a special on board ceremony to mark the occasion, as the Midnight Sun becomes closer in reach. In the evening arrive in Murmansk, a city located halfway between Moscow and the North Pole, 120 miles north of the Arctic Circle. Learn about and explore this Arctic trading post, which is ice-free year round due to the Gulf Stream. You can also visit the Nuclear Icebreaker Museum Ship and learn about these amazing engineering marvels.



Day 6: Murmansk, Nikel, Kirkenes

Today you leave your train at the Russian border station of Nikel and travel by bus to Kirkenes, just across the Russian/Norwegian border. Here you will stay two nights at the Thon Hotel (or similar), or you may choose to experience the ambiance of a wooden log cabin at the Kirkenes Snow Hotel (for an additional fee). Enjoy a traditional Nordic meal before embarking on a boat cruise (weather permitting) to see the famed midnight sun. Travel by RIB (rigid inflatable boat) from Kirkenes central harbor to Bøkfjord and Barents Sea, and experience the midnight sun from this beautiful fjord. You can also view various flora and fauna, and your guide will explain the history of the region, including bombing during World War II.

Day 7: Kirkenes

Embark on a fjord fishing adventure! Today you will catch, prepare, and sample King Crab of the Bugøfjord and the Barents Sea. Fish by RIB with an experienced Nordic fisherman, and help remove the King Crab cages from the sea's deep waters. Once you return to shore, you will have the opportunity to taste your fresh and delicious catch in a renovated boat house. In the evening, attend a Summer Solstice Cocktail Party and Gala Dinner to celebrate the longest day of the Northern Hemisphere. Your unique and adventurous day comes to an end.



Day 8: Kirkenes, Nikel

This morning you can take part in various optional activities (additional charges apply). You can go on another fishing adventure, this time for coalfish, cod, or haddock in the Barents Sea. Other activities may be available. However, there are limited places so please request at time of booking. Later today cross back into Russia and board the train back in Nikel.

Day 9: On Board

Spend today on board as the train travels south through arctic Russia towards our final destination, St. Petersburg. Socialize with other passengers and enjoy the beautiful scenery.

Day 10: St Petersburg

Explore St. Petersburg during the peak of its most beautiful period, the few weeks of White Nights (Beliye Nochi). During this time the city seems to glow all night and locals enjoy the long warm summer days. To celebrate this unique time of year, concerts and White Nights festivals fill the bustling night in St. Petersburg. This festival, lasting from May until July, includes classical performances (ballet, opera, and orchestras), carnivals that reproduce historical events, the Scarlet Sails celebration, and may coincide with famous entertainers' performances in the city. St. Petersburg is also home to splendid architecture and history, which you will have the opportunity to see. Once you first arrive in the city, embark on a tour of central St. Petersburg. You will visit sights such as St Isaac's Cathedral and Nevsky Prospekt. You will stay two nights at the Grand Hotel Europe, an ornate and centrally located hotel that has hosted royalty and cultural icons, such as Tchaikovsky and Pavarotti.

Day 11: St Petersburg



Spend the day in St. Petersburg touring iconic sights. You will visit The Catherine Palace in Pushkin and the Hermitage Museum. The Catherine Palace was originally constructed in 1717, and became the summer residence for the tsars of Russia. The Hermitage Museum is housed in the former Winter Palace of the Tsars, and is home to the royal art collection. This collection houses three million works and is one of the largest art museums in the world. You can spend your last evening on this incredible tour at a ballet or opera

performance at the famous Mariinsky Theater, or enjoy an outdoor concert (subject to schedule and availability and must be pre-booked at least six weeks prior to departure).

Day 12: St Petersburg

Today your Midnight Sun adventure comes to a close. Enjoy breakfast before heading to the airport. Alternatively, you can contact Palace Tours to extend your stay in St. Petersburg to explore more of this major European city during the lively summer season!