



# PALACE TOURS

## Golden Eagle Luxury Train: Single-Departure Journeys

### Winter Wonderland (Eastbound) / 14 nights

Moscow-Vladivostok

#### Tour Dates

2017: February 21-March 7

#### Price

Starting from \$15,895



Experience a unique Russian winter along the Trans-Siberian route, an iconic journey through remote landscapes and beautiful pastoral views. Your journey on the Golden Eagle Luxury Train takes you to beautiful cities in Russia and one stop in Mongolia. Sightseeing tours take you to these cities' best destinations and give you unique cultural immersion opportunities, like a meeting with a local family. Framed by luxury on the Golden Eagle, your experience in the Russian winter will be lively, informative, and most importantly, unforgettable.

### Price Details

Prices in US Dollars

| Silver Class (Twin) | Silver Class (Single) | Gold Class (Twin) | Gold Class (Single) | Imperial Class (Twin) | Imperial Class (Single) |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| \$15,895            | \$23,495              | \$19,595          | \$28,695            | \$30,995              | On Request              |

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## Itinerary

### Day 1: Moscow

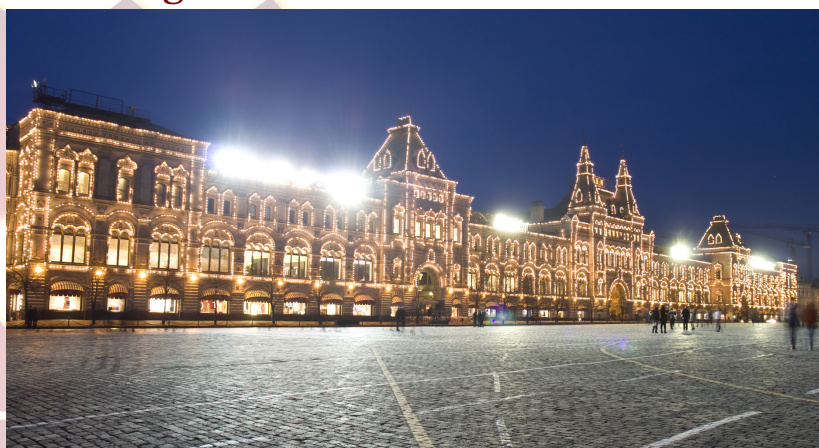
Arrive in Moscow where you will be met and transferred to the five-star Ritz-Carlton hotel, located at the heart of Moscow. With magnificent views of the Kremlin, Red Square, and St. Basil's Cathedral, and the indulgence of this outstanding accommodation, your adventure is steeped in extraordinary luxury from the beginning. The hotel features the 02 Lounge, a stylish rooftop terrace with panoramic views over the Red Square, and a spacious ESPA spa center with 14 treatment rooms in addition to a hot tub and indoor pool.

In Moscow, you may choose to attend a performance at the renowned Bolshoi Theatre. (Tickets must be pre-booked and are subject to schedule and availability) If you would like to extend your stay in Moscow, contact Palace Tours for the chance to explore more of the city.

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### Day 2: Moscow and the Golden Eagle

Spend the day touring Moscow and its top destinations. Visit the Kremlin, standing impressively along the Moscow River, and learn about its role as a spiritual, historical, and political heart of the city. Here, you will admire treasures of Tsars past in the Armoury Chamber: the Imperial Crown of Russia, the Orloff Diamond, and the ivory throne of Ivan the Terrible. Your tour also takes you to Red Square, which is framed by St Basil's Cathedral and its onion-domed spires, the elaborate façade of the GUM department store, and the poignancy of Lenin's tomb.



The *Freedom of Choice* touring option provides the opportunity to instead visit other sights such as the State Tretyakov Gallery (National Museum of Fine Art) or the Space Museum.

Later in the day you will arrive to Moscow Yaroslavsky Station, where the friendly train staff and a glass of champagne in the Bar Car Lounge welcome you. Prepare for departure on this magnificent train for a journey of incredible luxury.

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### Day 3: Vladimir & Suzdal

Your journey begins with a stop at the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Vladimir, founded in 990 as one of Russia's oldest communities. The tour takes you past some of the architectural wonders of this city, such as the Uspensky Cathedral which was built in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. Many prominent Russian Tsars were crowned here and it is known as one of the most important, and beautiful, Russian cathedrals.

Continue on to Suzdal, a pastoral town that is one of the best preserved walled cities in Russia. It is about 22 miles north of Vladimir and dates back to the year 1024. Enjoy a visit to the St. Euthymius Monastery where you will be enchanted by a choral performance.

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## Day 4: Yekaterinburg



Enjoy a city tour of this city, taking you to its top attractions. Peter the Great founded this city in 1723. Yekaterinburg is the capital of the Urals. The Ural Mountains create the “Great Divide” between Europe and Asia, a natural border between these two continents. At this convergence, a rich convergence of European and Asian culture and architecture will fascinate you in this cosmopolitan center. On your tour, you will visit the site where the Bolsheviks executed the Romanov Tsar Nicholas II of Russia and his family in 1918. A church dedicated to their memory now sits on this site and gives a deep and poignant insight into the turbulence of the Russian Revolution.

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## Day 5: Novosibirsk

Located in the heart of Russia, the city of Novosibirsk is a modern “Soviet” city and sits on the banks of the River Ob. This city is a center for the arts and sciences, which will be seen on your city tour. The tour takes you to Lenin Square where you will see the architectural wonder of the Opera House. It houses two permanent ballet and opera companies and is one of the largest opera houses in the world. An impressive, almost imposing, statue of Lenin stands at the front of the Opera House, and provides a perfect photograph opportunity.

The *Freedom of Choice* option takes you to the city’s south to the Railway Museum where you will see locomotives and rolling stock from the 1800s through the Soviet Era.

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## Day 6: On Board



Today, relax on board as our train travels through Siberia. Enjoy the constantly changing landscapes of natural snow-covered beauty unfold before you. Use your time to take advantage of all the luxury and comfort the train has to offer.

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## Day 7: Irkutsk

Today you will visit Irkutsk, the 'Paris of Siberia', and take in the most significant sites and museums of this fascinating city, including an exploration of the classic wooden architecture with its intricately carved lace-like decorations that has given many of this region's buildings such a distinctive and unique appearance. You also visit the Decembrist House museum which is dedicated to the memory of the aristocrats who were exiled to this remote outpost after the failed uprising of 1825, and we recreate the atmosphere of that time with a champagne reception and private concert. As an additional option for your day in Irkutsk you may wish to visit a traditional Russian Banya (sauna).

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## Day 8: Lake Baikal



Your day at Lake Baikal offers a highlight of the unique opportunity of traveling through Siberia in winter. Few natural sights can surpass the beauty and grandeur of Lake Baikal and today will be an unforgettable part of your Trans-Siberian journey.

For five hours we wind our way through tunnels along cliff hugging tracks above the frozen lake with a vista of snow-capped peaks along the far shore forming a picture-perfect backdrop. Lake Baikal is the deepest lake in the world and is completely frozen this time of year. Travel over the frozen lake by hovercraft a location where the ice fishing, dog sledges and snowmobiles are situated. Appreciate the vantage point to appreciate the magnificence of this untouched and beautiful location.

You will also have the opportunity to watch the under-ice fishing and sample the freshly caught fish which will be smoked in a mobile smokehouse and served warm with ice-cold vodka.

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## Day 9: Ulan Ude



Today you will visit Ulan Ude, the capital of the Buryat Republic, and experience a unique insight into its heritage and ethnic and cultural diversity. As we tour the area you will notice the different faces of these welcoming Buryat people. During our exploration of the Old Believers' Village we have the opportunity to learn about the culture and history of these religious people as we are treated to a concert featuring local traditions and folk singing.

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## Day 10: Ulaan Baatar



The next stop on your Trans-Siberian adventure takes you into Mongolia for a visit to its capital, Ulaan Baatar. Mongolia was once the very centre of an enormous empire led by Genghis Khan, and is known for its beautiful landscapes, nomadic people and richness of culture and history. Endless green Steppes, grazing livestock and white, nomadic Gers (Yurts) scatter all across the countryside.

The tour begins at Gandan Monastery, one of Mongolia's most important Buddhist Monasteries, which houses a community of over 500 monks.

The full name, Gandantegchinlen, translates as 'the great place of complete joy.' At Chinggis Square (formerly Sukhbaatar Square) an imposing central monument to Genghis Khan, undoubtedly the most feared and revered Mongol, sits proudly. Visit the National Museum where you learn about the country's intriguing history. You will also have the opportunity to visit a traditional Ger and meet a nomadic family.

## Day 11: On Board

Spend a relaxing day on board, reveling in luxury and reliving the unforgettable memories of the past few days in conversation with the other passengers. The Far East of Russia stretches out in all directions, so take time to watch the scenery pass by. Additionally, you may also find time to attend a lecture or Russian language lesson.

## Day 12: On Board

Relaxation continues as you travel through more dramatic and remote scenery. The train will take you by the Shika and Amur rivers near the Chinese border. Today you may enjoy the relaxation and luxury that the Golden Eagle provides.

## Day 13: On Board

Today is your final full day on board as you pass through Khabarovsk and cross the River Amur. You will pass north of Seoul, Darwin, and Osaka. Tonight you will enjoy your final dinner on board the Golden Eagle, which has been your home for the past days. Your final destination quickly approaches.

## Day 14: Vladivostok

After traveling through 8 time zones and covering an immense 6,600 miles along this iconic railway, the Golden Eagle pulls into its final destination, Vladivostok.



This city is a military port, located on the western shores of the Sea of Japan and is home to the Russian Navy's Pacific Fleet. Due to its military importance, the city was closed to foreigners between 1930 and 1992.

Vladivostok (literally translated as 'Ruler of the East') offers visitors an interesting opportunity to explore its principal military attractions including a visit to a preserved World War Two submarine. The city tour will also take you to the iconic suspension bridge over Golden Horn Bay, one of the largest of its kind worldwide, which opened in 2012 for the APEC conference.

Stay at the four-star Hotel Hyundai for one night.

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### **Day 15: Vladivostok**

You will be transferred to the Vladivostok Airport after breakfast for your departures.

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# Winter Wonderland (Westbound) / 14 nights

## Vladivostok-Moscow

### Tour Dates

2017: March 5-March 19

### Price

2017: Starting from \$15,895



Starting in Vladivostok, the westbound journey of the Winter Wonderland tour takes you on the iconic Trans-Siberian route through remote landscapes and unforgettable destinations. The westbound tour follows the eastbound itinerary, but makes a few changes. On this tour, you will visit the Russian town of Khabarovsk on Day 3, and arrive in Moscow in the evening on Day 14. For this reason, the tour of the city is pushed to the final day and we recommend that you book flights for after 4pm or choose to extend your stay another night for more time in this magnificent city. Contact Palace Tours to make this addition.

### Price Details

Prices in US Dollars

| Silver Class (Twin) | Silver Class (Single) | Gold Class (Twin) | Gold Class (Single) | Imperial Class (Twin) | Imperial Class (Single) |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
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## Itinerary

|                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Day 1: Vladivostok</b>            | Arrive at Vladivostok Airport and transfer to the four-star Hotel Hyundai for one night. Enjoy a welcome reception dinner. Contact Palace Tours to extend your stay.                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Day 2: Vladivostok</b>            | Tour the city, then board the Golden Eagle at the Vladivostok Railway Station where a military band and champagne reception welcome you.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Day 3: Khabarovsk</b>             | Tour the city located only 15 miles from the China border. The city was originally founded as a military post in 1858, but the area had been settled by peoples of the Far East for centuries. Now a busy city, you will see the memorial to Yerofey Pavlovich Khabarov, a World War Two memorial, and the Regional Museum. |
| <b>Day 4: On Board</b>               | Spend a relaxing day on board. The train follows the Shilka and Amur rivers. Participate in lectures or Russian language lessons.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Day 5: On Board</b>               | Relax on board.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Day 6: Ulaan Baatar</b>           | Tour Ulaan Baatar, visiting the Gandan Monastery and a traditional Ger.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Day 7: Ulan Ude</b>               | Spend the day in the rich culture of Ulan Ude.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Day 8: Lake Baikal</b>            | Experience a unique day on this frozen lake, the deepest in the world.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Day 9: Irkutsk</b>                | Tour the "Paris of Siberia," and visit museums and see the incredible wooden architecture.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Day 10: On Board</b>              | Reflect on your journey so far and relax after a busy few days.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Day 11: Novosibirsk</b>           | Spend the day touring the city, seeing sites like the Opera House or Railway Museum.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Day 12: Yekaterinburg</b>         | Tour this historic and beautiful city by the Ural Mountains. This city is the site of the execution of the Romanov family during the Russian Revolution.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Day 13: Suzdal &amp; Vladimir</b> | Tour two beautiful and old cities, seeing beautiful architecture.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Day 14: Moscow</b>                | Arrive in Moscow in the evening. Stay at the five-star Ritz-Carlton.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Day 15: Moscow</b>                | Tour the city, visiting sites like the Kremlin, Red Square, or the National Museum of Fine Art. Transfer to the airport in the evening (please book flights for after 4pm)                                                                                                                                                  |