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PALACE TOURS

Golden Eagle Luxury Train: Jewels of the Silk Road (Almaty to Baku)

8 Nights • Luxury Experience

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Overview

Nine days, three Central Asian republics and a finish on the Caspian. This westbound *Jewels of the Silk Road* starts under the Tien Shan mountains in Almaty and ends in Baku, crossing the alpine lake country of Kyrgyzstan and the great desert cities of Uzbekistan aboard the private *Golden Eagle*.

Running the route this way round, the journey builds as it goes: the mountains and the nomadic culture of the steppe come first, then Tashkent, Samarkand and Bukhara in turn, and finally Khiva, the walled caravan city, before a private charter flight carries the group across the Caspian to Baku for a farewell night.

Journey highlights

- Almaty's Panfilov Park and the Zenkov Cathedral, a 19th-century wooden church built without nails
- A private nomadic games festival on the shore of Lake Issyk-Kul - horseback wrestling, eagle hunting and ordo
- The world's oldest Koran, held in a small library in the old quarter of Tashkent
- Registan Square at Samarkand by day, then again after dark for the illuminated light show
- The Ark fortress and the Kalyan Mosque at Bukhara, with a platform barbecue before the train pulls out
- Walled Khiva, then a private charter flight to Baku for the farewell dinner

The journey runs in both directions. This is the westbound departure, Almaty to Baku, leaving 14 October 2027. The eastbound journey, Baku to Almaty, leaves on 7 October 2027.

DAY BY DAY

Your Itinerary



DAY 1

ALMATY

You are met on arrival in Almaty and driven to your hotel in the centre of the city for one night. This evening the group gathers for a welcome dinner at the hotel - the first chance to meet your fellow travellers before the train journey begins. Kazakhstan's former capital sits right at the foot of the mountains, and the setting is at its best in the clear October light.

DAY 2

ALMATY

After breakfast a morning tour of Almaty takes in Panfilov Park at the heart of the city and, inside it, the Zenkov Cathedral - a 19th-century Russian Orthodox church that ranks among the largest wooden buildings in the world and was put together without a single nail. In the afternoon you board the *Golden Eagle*, settle into your cabin and roll out across the Kazakh countryside towards the Kyrgyz border. The first dinner on board, with fine wines, is served as evening falls.





DAY 3

LAKE ISSYK

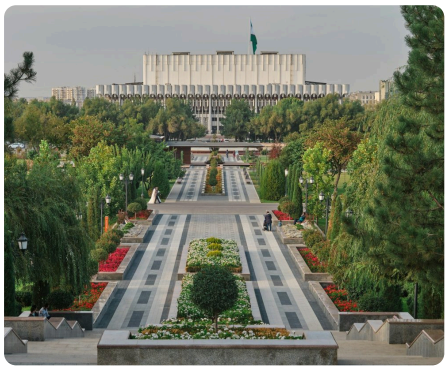
A long day beside Lake Issyk-Kul, the second largest alpine lake on earth, ringed by the snow peaks of the Tien Shan. On the shore a festival is staged privately for the group, built around the games and skills of the nomadic steppe: horseback wrestling, hunting with golden eagles, archery and ordo, a game of tactics played with cow kneecaps. Music, dance, costume and craft demonstrations complete the picture. Afterwards there is the option of the open-air Museum of Petroglyphs before you return to the train.

DAY 4

GOLDEN EAGLE

A slower day, and a welcome one. The train runs west out of Kyrgyzstan and into Uzbekistan while open plains, low hills and distant ranges slide past the windows. Spend it in your cabin, in the bar lounge car with the scenery, or simply at the pace of the railway.





DAY 5

TASHKENT

Uzbekistan's capital was largely rebuilt after the earthquake of 1966, so the city reads as Soviet modernism with an older quarter threaded through it. In the Old Town, narrow streets of traditional houses and religious buildings lead to a small library holding the Uthman Koran, revered as one of the oldest surviving copies in the world. The day also takes in the Railway Museum and the Museum of Applied Arts, with its ceramics, textiles and decorative crafts.

DAY 6

SAMARKAND

No name conjures the Silk Road quite like Samarkand. Today's touring covers its great set pieces: Registan Square, the city's architectural heart; the vast Bibi-Khanym Mosque; and the Ulugh Beg Observatory of 1428, among the earliest and most important observatories of the Islamic world. After dark you return to the Registan, lit up for a light and sound show watched from reserved seats.





DAY 7

BUKHARA

Bukhara keeps one of the best preserved historic centres in Central Asia. The visit takes in The Ark, the fortified palace of the Emirs of Bukhara, and Poi-Kalyan Square with the Kalyan Mosque and its landmark minaret, followed by time in the old Trading Domes and at Lyabi-Hauz, the pool square shaded by mulberry trees. Weather permitting, the evening ends with a barbecue on the station platform before the train departs.

DAY 8

KHIVA

The last of the Silk Road cities is the most complete. Khiva rises out of the desert inside its own mud-brick walls, a World Heritage Site where mosques, madrassas, minarets and courtyards stand so close together that the whole town works as an open-air museum. In the afternoon a private charter flight takes the group across the Caspian to Baku, Azerbaijan's capital, for a night at a five-star hotel and the farewell dinner.





DAY 9

BAKU

After breakfast you are transferred to Baku airport for your onward flight. Baku is well worth extra time - the walled old city and the waterfront boulevard reward a longer stay - and we are glad to arrange additional nights and touring.

DATES & PRICING

Departure Dates & Rates

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Oct 14, 2027	Imperial Suite	**$98,100**	**$49,050**
	Gold Class	**$36,400**	**$21,800**
	Silver Class	**$25,200**	**$16,800**
	Imperial Suite Early Bird	**$97,600**	**$48,550**
	Gold Class Early Bird	**$35,900**	**$21,300**
	Silver Class Early Bird	**$24,700**	**$16,300**

Rates shown are per person. Single rate applies to single occupancy; Double rate applies per person in double occupancy.

EARLY BIRD FARES

Book early, pay less

Plan ahead and you'll pay less for exactly the same journey. Every cabin on this tour has an Early Bird fare. Look for it in the booking calendar, right next to the regular fare: it is labelled "<cabin> Early Bird".

6 MONTHS OR MORE BEFORE DEPARTURE

Save $250

per person

3 TO 6 MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE

Save $150

per person

INSIDE 3 MONTHS

Regular fare

the Early Bird fare closes

CABIN	REGULAR DOUBLE (PP)	EARLY BIRD, 6+ MONTHS AHEAD	EARLY BIRD, 3–6 MONTHS AHEAD
Imperial Suite	**$49,050**	**$48,800** save $250	**$48,900** save $150
Gold Class	**$21,800**	**$21,550** save $250	**$21,650** save $150
Silver Class	**$16,800**	**$16,550** save $250	**$16,650** save $150

Double fares per person, two sharing. The saving depends on the cabin's regular price per person: $250 / $150 on journeys from $8,000, $150 / $100 from $5,000, and $50 on shorter trips. It's the same cabin, the same itinerary and everything included as before. The only difference is the price. Early Bird fares are limited to the cabins on each departure and close automatically. If you already know your dates, now is the time to book.

🏷️ **Look for Coupons and Special Rates on our website.**

Visit https://www.palacetours.com/tour/golden-eagle-jewels-of-the-silk-road-almaty-baku for the latest information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Terms & Conditions

Booking & Payment

- **Deposit:** 30% of the total tour cost is due at the time of booking. The deposit is non-refundable.
- **Final payment:** the balance is due no later than 125 days before departure.
- Bookings made within 125 days of departure are payable in full at the time of booking.
- Fares are per person. Your written confirmation shows the exact amounts and due dates.

Cancellation

- **125 days or more** before departure: 30% of the total tour cost (the deposit)
- **Less than 125 days** before departure: 100% of the total tour cost

Changes

- **Date change:** free of charge, subject to availability, when requested 125 days or more before departure; after that, a fee of 15% of the total tour cost applies.
- **Cabin upgrade:** only the fare difference between cabin categories applies.
- **Cabin downgrade or passenger name correction:** free of charge up to 35 days before departure; within 35 days, EUR 500 per change.

Changes or cancellation by the train operator

If the train operator cancels or materially changes a departure, you will be offered a new date or an amended booking, a credit toward a future journey, or a refund of the amounts paid.

All cancellation, change, or update requests must be submitted in writing by email to travel@palacetours.com. A request takes effect only once we have received and processed it, and we will confirm the outcome to you in writing. Timeframes are calculated by reference to local time and business days at the destination; a request received outside business hours is treated as received on the next business day.

We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance, including cancellation cover, from the moment you pay your deposit. For information on available plans, please visit www.palacetours.com/insurance.

Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

travel@palacetours.com | 786-408-0610

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