



PALACE TOURS
Travel Like Royalty

PALACE TOURS

Venice Simplon-Orient-Express: Istanbul - Paris

5 Nights • Luxury Experience

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Overview

Travel through Eastern and Central Europe on this unique journey on board the Orient-Express. On this tour you will explore the remarkable and enchanting cities of Bucharest or Budapest and traverse stunning landscapes of six countries. Spend three nights on the train and two nights in five-star hotels. While on the train enjoy fine cuisine, beautiful accommodations, and superior service. The Orient Express boasts three luxurious restaurant cars, a Bar Car, Champagne Bar, and comfortable, private accommodations for your overnight stays.

Embarking from Istanbul, your trip will be complete with cultural immersion, comprehensive guided tours, and personal service to provide you with an unforgettable experience. Impressive opera houses, Turkish baths, mosques and churches line your journey. History and cultures are alive around you, as you visit top destinations like Peles Castle. Explore indulgence and luxury aboard the timeless Orient Express.

Your Itinerary



DAY 1

FRIDAY 30 AUG 2019: BOARD THE ORIENT EXPRESS

Step aboard the gleaming blue and gold Wagons-Lits carriages of the Orient Express as the train departs for the first part of your journey from the Istanbul Station at 15:00.

Dinner is a sumptuous affair, prepared on board by our skilled chefs and served in one of the beautifully restored restaurant cars. Afterwards you may wish to linger in the Bar Car, listening to the pianist tickle the ivories of the baby grand, before retiring for the night.

DAY 2

SATURDAY 31 AUG 2019: BUSTLING BUCHAREST

The next morning Continental breakfast is served in your cabin as the train winds its way through Bulgaria and into Romania. Soak up the scenery through the windows before enjoying a delicious brunch. Soon afterwards the train arrives in Bucharest Nord Station at 13:36, where you alight.

On arrival in Bucharest, enjoy an orientation tour of the city by coach escorted by local guides.

Dinner this evening will be in a private venue.

Overnight in Athenée Palace Hilton Hotel.





DAY 3

SUNDAY 01 SEP 2019: JOURNEY INTO THE ROMANIAN COUNTRYSIDE

This morning rejoin the train and enjoy a delicious brunch in the restaurant cars as the train journeys towards the mountain town of Sinaia and its Peles Castle, the summer home of the former King Carol. This beautiful castle was also visited by the very first Orient Express guests in October 1883, at the personal invitation of the King.

Return to the train in the late afternoon for a relaxing journey towards Hungary.

Enjoy another delectable dinner and night on board.

DAY 4

MONDAY 02 SEP 2019: ENCOUNTER BEAUTIFUL BUDAPEST

On arrival in Budapest, local guides, after a short coach ride through the city take you on a river cruise along the Danube, ending after lunch. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended as part of today's excursion will be on foot.

In the evening you will be escorted to a nearby private venue for a typical Hungarian dinner.

Overnight in Gresham Four Seasons in Budapest.



DAY 5

TUESDAY 03 SEP 2019: VISIT THE TRANSDANUBIAN REGION

Lunch is served as the train makes its way to Balaton Lake in the Transdanubian region of Hungary, through vineyards and forests.

Later this afternoon, you are invited to disembark for an aperitif by the lake at sunset before re-joining the train for dinner and your final night on board.

DAY 6

WEDNESDAY 04 SEP 2019: ARRIVE TO PARIS

Enjoy your final breakfast in your cabin while the train travel through Germany before entering into France. A delicious farewell lunch is prepared by our skilled chefs before all too soon the train arrives into Paris Gare de L'Est Station, your journey's end.

Terms & Conditions

Booking Conditions

- **Deposit:** 15% of total price required at booking
- **Final Payment:** Due 56 days before departure
- **Confirmation:** Booking confirmed upon deposit receipt

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be in writing. Charges apply:

- More than 56 days before departure: Loss of deposit
- 55-15 days before departure: 50% charge
- 14-0 days before departure: 100% charge
- No-show: 100% charge

Important Terms

- Travel insurance: required
- Full payment due immediately if booking within 56 days of departure

Source: Belmond official terms

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the history of the train?

Board the Venice-Simplon-Orient Express and you are embarking on an adventure embraced by film stars, royalty and even spies. Under one man's mission to bring the train back to life, the vintage carriages were bought in 1977 and carefully restored for the train's relaunch in 1982. Today, it is still one of the most desirable travel experiences in the world. The carriages were created between 1926 and 1949 they echo the style of carriages previously introduced in the US by George Mortimer Pullman - whose surname remains a byword for luxury rail travel.

What are the different trips offered by the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express? Where do they run and for how long, and what are their costs?

Contact Palace Tours for more information at 609-683-5018 or email us at travel@palacetours.com. Trips range from one day to five nights and journey between top European cities such as Budapest, Istanbul, Paris, Venice, and London.

Describe the cabin accommodations on board.

The train features Twin Cabins and Cabin Suites. Twin Ca. Singles are the most basic accommodation at one bed, while twins hold two beds in an upper and lower berth. During the day, these twin berths may be reconfigured into banquet seating for greater comfort. The cabin suites are the largest accommodation, and contain two of the twin beds. These give you the option to keep one twin set down for a larger living space during the day, and have the other side readied for bed. All three of these vintage cabin types feature rich oak paneling, which can be drawn back to bring forth a washbasin at one corner. Lavatories at the ends of each carriage are adorned by mosaic tiling for added luxury. Twin cabins feature upper and lower berths, and can be made up as single cabins to have one lower berth. Crisp damask sheets and fine blankets contribute to a cozy and restful atmosphere at night; during the day, the berths are transformed to offer comfortable banquette seating from which to admire the views. A Cabin Suite formed of two inter-connecting twin cabins can be reserved, using one cabin as a living area and the other for sleeping, or as a lower berth bed in each.

Does the train travel at night?

Yes, the train continually moves throughout the night.

Describe the lavatory and shower on board.

The Venice Simplon-Orient-Express cars are the original 1920s carriages. Each cabin comes complete with its own washbasin with hot and cold water, towels, bathrobes and slippers. Lavatories are located at the either or both ends of each sleeping carriage. However, on longer journeys the train makes alternating stops at local hotels to accommodate showering. Nights on longer journeys alternate between hotel stays as the train does not keep passengers on board for more than one night at a time.

How many passengers does the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express accommodate?

The train carries a maximum of 182 passengers. A private charter may also be arranged to allow for an exclusive experience for any special occasions or business trips a group may require.

Describe the decor of the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express.

The current art-deco design of the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express carriages originated during the golden age of rail travel, the roaring 1920's. As such, travelers will appreciate art-deco style as they are stepped into this elegant environment, where rich inheritances from the past meet modern luxury. There is a timeless allure and romantic quality present throughout the train.

Describe the dining accommodations on board.

The Venice Simplon-Orient-Express contains three distinct restaurant carriages originally built in the 1920's: Côte d'Azur, Etoile du Nord, and L'Oriental, each of which has been beautifully restored and decorated. In any of these carriages, guests can expect a unique dining experience on par with Europe's top restaurants through terrific ambiance, service, and fresh ingredients picked up at stops along the journey. The Executive Chef Christian Bodiguel, has been preparing the finest French and European cuisines for over 30 years on board the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express. To accompany Bodiguel's culinary creations, the train stocks fine wines and other a la carte options at an additional charge.

Does the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express contain a bar car in addition to the restaurant carriages?

Yes. The "3674," named for the car's original numerical designation, serves as the bar carriage for the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express. Here you can unwind with a cocktail as you chat with fellow guests, enjoying the sweet tones of the resident pianist on a baby grand. In addition to the 3674 carriage, the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express recently added a Champagne Bar stocked with some of the finest French vintages. Here you may enjoy top brands such as Tattinger, Laurent Perrier, and Louis Roederer.

Can the train accommodate dietary restrictions?

Yes, just notify Palace Tours before booking your trip, and your unique needs will be accommodated.

What attire should I wear on the train and on any excursions?

You can never be overdressed on the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express. For dinner, we ask that men to wear a suit and tie and women dress in smart attire, but many guests like to don black tie or evening dress for the occasion. During the day the dress code is smart-casual. At lunch, for example, a jacket and tie is suitable for men. Jeans and sneakers are not recommended. For the excursions dress may be casual, but suited to weather conditions.

How much luggage can I bring?

Despite having luggage racks in our cabins, space constraints require that luggage is limited, per passenger, to: one suitable piece of hand luggage, one suit carrier or overnight bag (to be placed in your cabin), and one suitcase to be stored in the baggage car, where it will not be accessible until you reach your destination.

What are the typical weather conditions like throughout the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express journeys?

Weather conditions are seasonal: warm temperatures throughout spring and autumn, hot temperatures throughout the summer, cold temperatures with snow throughout the winter. Be aware that the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express is not equipped with air conditioning, so be wary of this during the summer months especially.

Do Venice Simplon-Orient-Express reservations fill quickly, and how far in advance should I book a journey?

Yes, Venice Simplon-Orient-Express reservations fill quickly so it is best to book a journey a year in advance. Refer to Palace Tours for a list of dates and journeys to plan ahead more easily.

What currency do I need on board?

It is recommended that passengers have a small number of Euros for on board purchases. However, most major currencies are accepted, as well as travelers' cheques, Eurocheques and major credit cards (Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Diners Club and JCB). The exchange rate on board is displayed in the Bar Car.

Describe tipping on the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, as well as the excursions.

Tipping is not required on the tour, regardless of the cities visited. You may feel free to do so as your tipping culture suggests, but it is ultimately discretionary.

Which languages are spoken on board?

French, English and Italian are spoken by most stewards on board the continental train. If a passenger requires translation to other languages, notify Palace Tours upon booking and a translator can be arranged at an additional cost.

Describe the demographics of the typical passenger on board the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express.

The Venice Simplon-Orient-Express is particularly popular among tourists over the age of 55. In recent years, younger clientele are becoming increasingly represented on the train as well.

Are children allowed on the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express?

Yes, all children are welcome, but ages 7 and up are better recommended. A 20% price discount is also available for children under 12 years of age.

Can I smoke on board?

No. To comply with Italian and other European regulations, Venice Simplon-Orient-Express train operates a no smoking policy on board both the Belmond British Pullman and the continental train.

I'd like to contact Palace Tours directly, what is the phone number and email?

Phone: 609-683-5018, Email: travel@palacetours.com

What type of staff assistance is available?

At any time of day and night there is one steward available for assistance in each carriage.

Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

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