

MORE THAN TRAVEL
TAILOR- MADE TOURS TO RUSSIA

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# SPECIAL OFFER

GRAND RUSSIAN VOYAGE

# Trans-Siberian Westbound Vladivostok to Moscow

18 Days

Set departures: 3 May – 20 May 2020 30 August – 16 September 2020

This package is available as either **Group Tour** (scheduled departures) or **Private Tour** (flexible dates)

VLADIVOSTOK — ULAN-UDE — IRKUTSK — LAKE BAIKAL YEKATERINBURG — KAZAN — NIZHNY NOVGOROD — MOSCOW







- Australian-owned company
- Over 10 years experience in Russia

24/7 support









# Russian visa: easy to obtain

How to obtain a Russian Visa in an easy way: Step by Step Guide

- 1. Book your tour with Discovery Russia
- 2. Get you personal Visa Support Letter (VSL) & Discovery Russia's detailed Visa Manuals
- 3. Fill in Visa Application form
- 4. Apply to the Embassy or Russian Visa Centre personally or send Application, passport, photo to the Embassy or Russian visa Center by mail
- 5. Obtain your Russian visa in the Embassy, Russian Visa Centre or by mail





# <u>Itinerary</u>

Novosibirsk





Day 2 — Discover Vladivostok

Day 3-4 — On board to Ulan-Ude

Day 5 — Ulan-Ude arrival & city tour

Day 6 — Ivolginsky Datsan & train to Irkutsk

Day 7 — Arrival in Irkutsk

Day 8-9 — Discover Lake Baikal

Day 10-11 — On board to Yekaterinburg

Day 12 — Discover Yekaterinburg

Day 13 — On board to Kazan

Day 14 — Discover Kazan & train to Nizhny Novgorod

Day 15 — Discover Central Russia

Day 16 — Nizhny Novgorod city tour & train to Moscow

Day 17 — Discover Moscow

Day 18 — Farewell

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Khabarovsk



## <u>ITINERARY</u>

#### DAY 1

- Arrival in Vladivostok
- Meet and greet at Vladivostok airport
- Transfer to the hotel and check-in
- Evening at leisure
- Group tour: welcome dinner
- Overnight stay in Vladivostok

#### DAY 5

- Early arrival in Ulan-Ude
- Transfer to the hotel
- Early check-in
- Atsagatski Datsan
- City tour: Lenin's head, Old town
- Overnight stay in Ulan-Ude

#### DAY 2

- Breakfast
- Guided tour in Vladivostok: Harbor, Golden Bridge, Fortress, Submarine 56, Russian Island, fish market
- Boarding the train to Ulan-Ude

#### DAY 6

- Breakfast
- Ivolginsky Datsan

in Irkutsk.

- Old believers village
- Boarding the train to Irkutsk
   Note: Day schedule in Ulan-Ude can be changed due to the train schedule with overnight

#### **DAY 3-4**

On board

#### DAY 7

- Arrival in Irkutsk
- Transfer to Listvyanka village on the shores of Lake Baikal
- Optional evening: Russian banya
- Overnight stay in Listvyanka/or Irkutsk subject to train schedule

# discovery RUSSIA

## **ITINERARY**

#### DAY8

- Breakfast
- Baikal Museum of Limnology
- Chersky Stone observation point (Cable car)
- St. Nicholas Russian
   Orthodox Church
- Visit local souvenir market
- Optional Russian banya
- Optional Lake Baikal boat cruise
- Overnight stay in Listvyanka

#### DAY9

- Breakfast
- Transfer to Irkutsk
- Visit Taltsy Museum
- Guided tour in Irkutsk
- St. Epiphany Cathedral
- Kirov Square
- Board the train to Yekaterinburg

#### **DAY 10**

 On board. Train ride continues 2 days and 5 hours on the train.

#### **DAY 11**

- Arrival in Yekaterinburg
- Meet and greet at the railway station
- Transfer to the hotel
- Check-in
- Evening free at leisure
- Overnight stay in Yekaterinburg

#### **DAY 12**

- Breakfast
- Yekaterinburg city tour: Ganina Yama Monastery, Museum of Minerals, Cathedral on the Blood, Europe-Asia Border
- Pyzhma military museum
- Overnight stay in Yekaterinburg

#### **DAY 13**

- Breakfast
- Transfer to the railway station
- Board the train to Kazan
- Arrival in Kazan
- Meet and greet at the railway station
- Transfer to the hotel
- Check-in
- Overnight stay in Kazan

## **ITINERARY**



**DAY 14** 

- Breakfast
- Check-out
- Guided tour in Kazan
- Master class on cooking the national Tatar food
- Transfer to the railway station
- Board the train to Nizhny Novgorod

#### **DAY 15**

- Early arrival in Nizhny Novgorod
- Meet and greet at the train station
- Transfer to the hotel
- Guaranteed Early check-in
- Guided tour to Gorodets, exploring Central Russia
- Overnight stay in Nizhny Novgorod

#### **DAY 16**

- Breakfast
- Guided tour in Nizhny Novgorod
- Board high-speed train to Moscow
- Transfer to the hotel and check-in
- Overnight stay in Moscow

#### **DAY 17**

- Breakfast
- The Moscow Kremlin Tour, including the Armory and the Red Square
- Moscow metro tour
- Excursion in Novodevichy Convent
- Sparrow Hills
- Arbat
- Overnight stay in Moscow

#### **DAY 18**

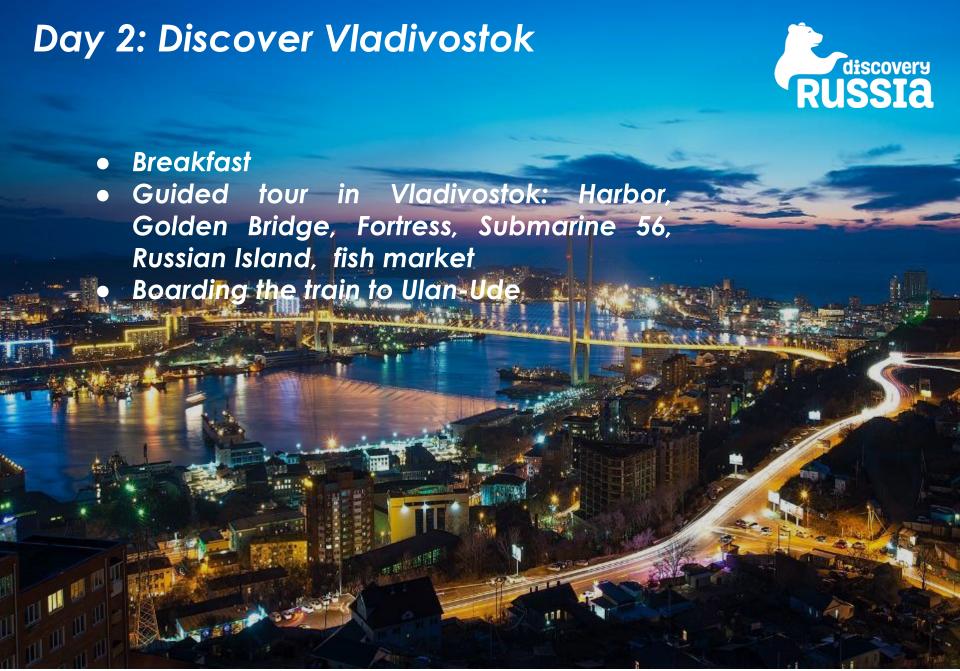
- Breakfast
- Check-out from the hotel
- Transfer to the airport for departure flight

# Day 1: Arrival in Vladivostok

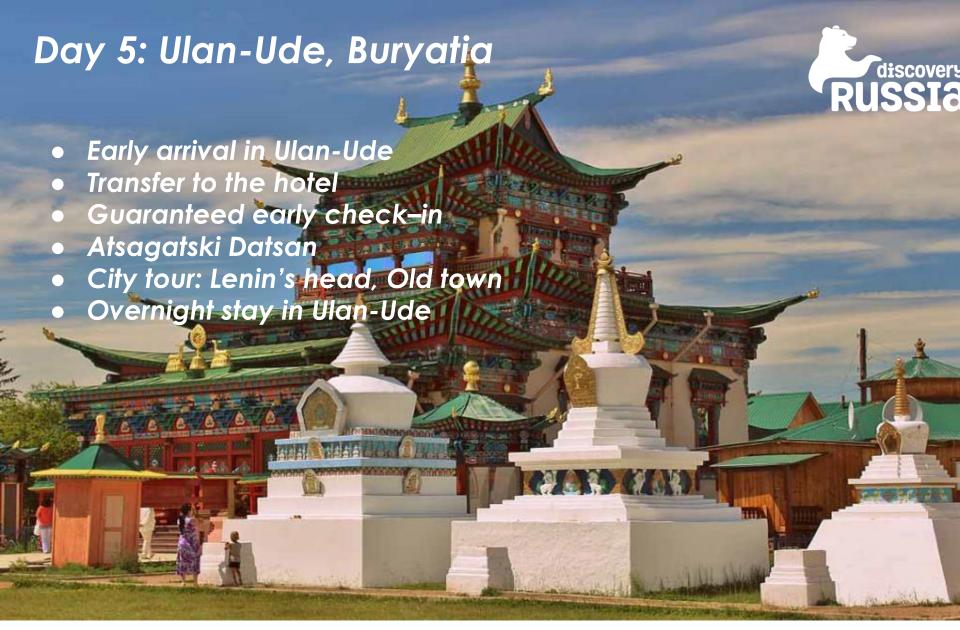


- Arrival in Vladivostok
- Meet and greet at Vladivostok airport
- Transfer to the hotel and check-in
- Evening at leisure
- Group tour: welcome dinner
- Overnight stay in Vladivostok

Welcome to Russia! Vladivostok is one of the most picturesque and interesting cities at the Far East. During the Soviet time the city was the home base of the Pacific Russian military fleet and thus entrance for international travelers was not allowed. Free access was given to tourists and visitors only in 1992.







Buryatia has a traditional importance as a trading settlement between Russia, Mongolia and China.

# Day 6: Discover Ulan-Ude discovery Breakfast Ivolginsky Datsan Old believers village Check-out, transfer to the train station Boarding the train to Irkutsk Note: Day schedule in Ulan-Ude can be changed due to the train schedule with overnight in Irkutsk

# Day 7: Arrival in Irkutsk & Lake Baikal

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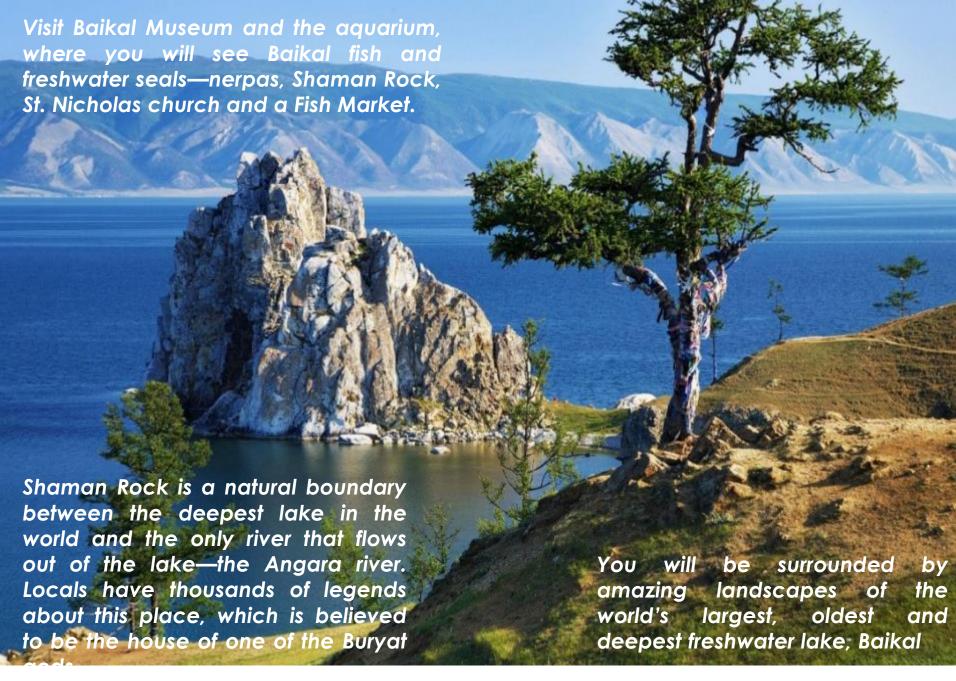
- Arrival in Irkutsk in the morning
- Breakfast
- Transfer to Listvyanka village on the shores of Lake Baikal
- Stop en route to visit a real Siberian Zaimka (hunter's house)
- Optional evening: Russian banya
- Overnight stay in Listvyanka

# Day 8: Discover Baikal

- Breakfast
- Baikal Museum of Limnology
- Chersky Stone observation point (Cable car)
- St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church
- Visit local souvenir market
- Optional Russian banya
- Optional Lake Baikal boat cruise
- Overnight stay in Listvyanka



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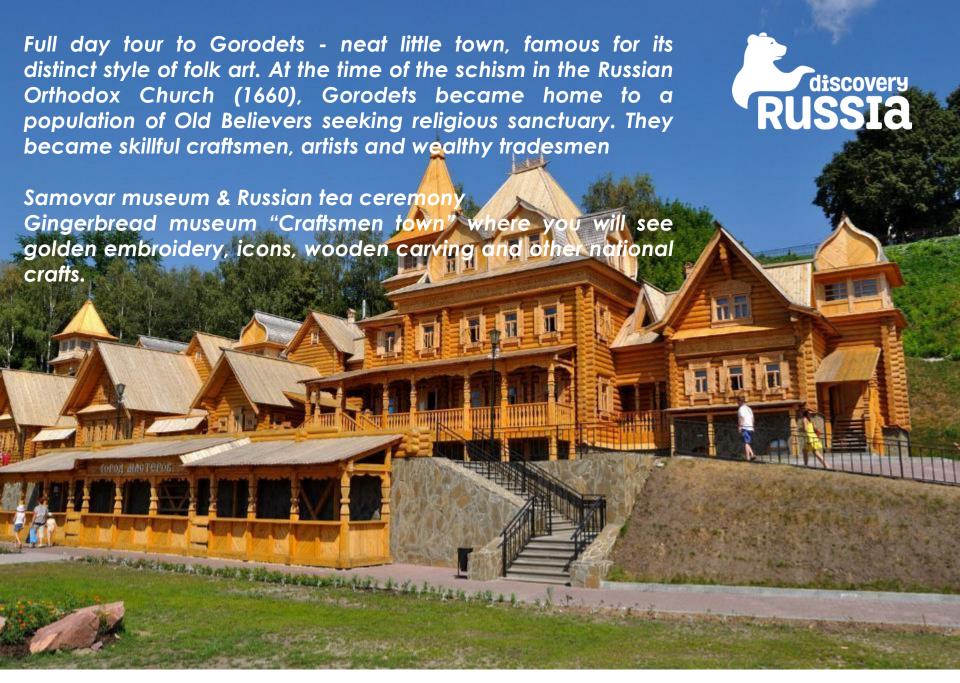


Guided tour to UNESCO World Heritage Site, Kremlin of Kazan. Built by Ivan the Terrible on the ruins of the palace of the Kazan Khanate that he destroyed, the Kremlin of Kazan reflects the ethnic mix of Tatars and Russians, Muslims and Christians, that merged into one nation centuries ago.

# Day 15: Discover Central Russia

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- Early arrival in Nizhny Novgorod
- Meet and greet at the train station
- Transfer to the hotel
- Guaranteed Early check-in
- Guided tour to Gorodets, exploring Central Russia
- Overnight stay in Nizhny Novgorod



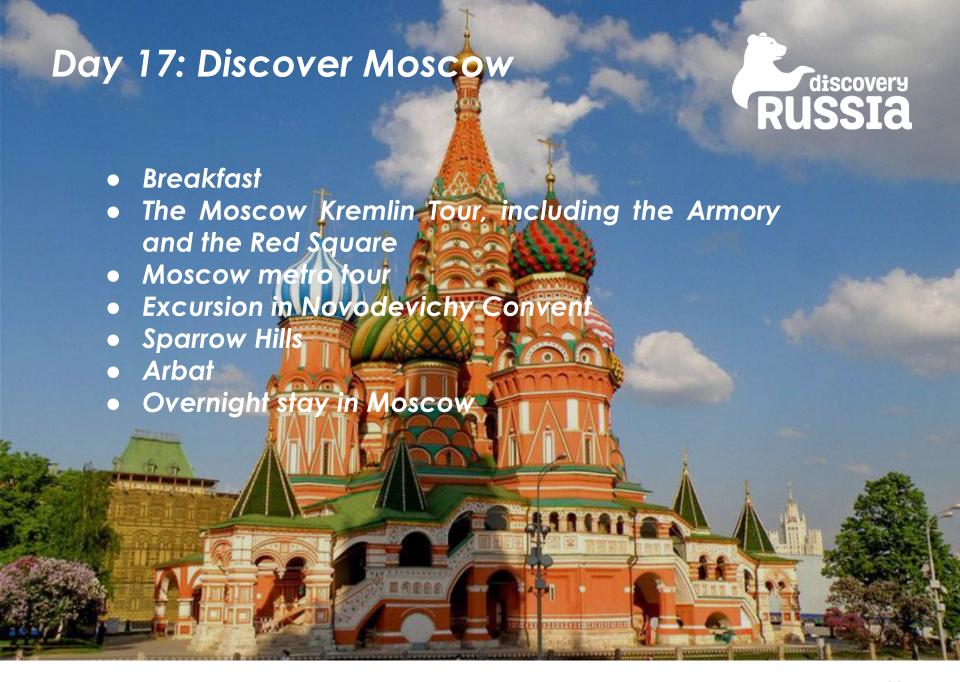
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# Day 16: Discover Nizhny Novgorod

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- Breakfast
- Guided tour in Nizhny Novgorod
- Board high-speed train to Moscow
- Transfer to the hotel and check-in
- Overnight stay in Moscow

You will get the compete set of Russia's attractions in Nizhny Novgorod: the Kremlin, the State Art Museum with a collection of icons and national crafts dated back to XIV century, wooden architecture on streets and an open-air museum of traditional wooden architecture and cultures, beautiful churches, ancient monasteries, great traditional Russian food and heartily people.



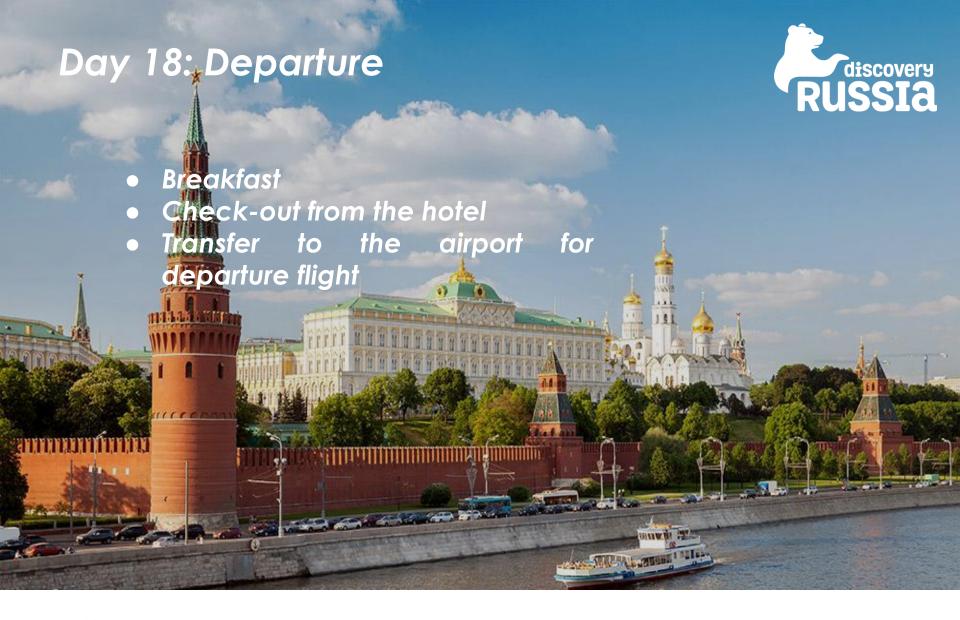




Novodevichy Convent, also known as Bogoroditse-Smolensky Monastery is probably the best-known cloister of Moscow. Its name, sometimes translated as the New Maidens' Monastery, was devised to differ from the Old Maidens' Monastery within the Moscow Kremlin. Unlike other Moscow cloisters, it has remained virtually intact since the 17th century. In 2004, it was proclaimed a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



The Moscow Metro was opened in 1935 with one 11-kilometre (6.8 mi) line and 13 stations, it was the first underground railway system in the Soviet Union. As of 2018, the Moscow Metro excluding the Moscow Central Circle and Moscow Monorail has 224 stations (255 with Moscow Central Circle) and its route length is 381 km (237 mi), making it the fifth longest in the world. The system is mostly underground, with the deepest section 84 metres (276 ft) underground at the Park Pobedy station, one of the world's deepest. It's the busiest metro system in Europe, and a tourist attraction in itself.



# Your Trans Siberian adventure ends here!

### Group Tour, 2020



# Early bird prices: Book a tour for more than a year in advance for the price of 2019.

Starting dates for 2020: 3 May, 30 August

#### Group Tour, 2020, AUD

Rate per person (3\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 5,890 / 4,510 AUD Rate per person (4\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 6,525 / 5,145 AUD

#### Group Tour, 2020, USD

Rate per person (3\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 4,180 / 3,200 USD Rate per person (4\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 4,630 / 3,650 USD

#### Group Tour, 2020, GBP

Rate per person (3\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 3,240 / 2,480 GBP Rate per person (4\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 3,590 / 2,830 GBP

#### Group Tour, 2020, CAD

Rate per person (3\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 5,635 / 4,315 CAD Rate per person (4\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 6,240 / 4,920 CAD

### Private Tour, 2 people, 2020

Starting dates for 2020: Flexible



#### Private Tour, 2 people, 2020, AUD

Rate per person (3\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 7,999 / 6,570 AUD Rate per person (4\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 8,485 / 7,055 AUD

#### Private Tour, 2 people, 2020, USD

Rate per person (3\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 5,680 / 4,660 USD Rate per person (4\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 6,025 / 5,005 USD

#### Private Tour, 2 people, 2020, GBP

Rate per person (3\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 4,399 / 3,615 GBP Rate per person (4\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 4,670 / 3,880 GBP

#### Private Tour, 2 people, 2020, CAD

Rate per person (3\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 7,655 / 6,280 CAD Rate per person (4\* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 8,525 / 7,085 CAD

#### **ACCOMMODATION:**



- Hand-picked centrally located hotels:
  - 1 night Vladivostok;
  - 1 night Ulan Ude with early check-in;
  - 2 nights Lake Baikal;
  - 2 nights Yekaterinburg;
  - 1 night Kazan;
  - 1 night Nizhny Novgorod with early check-in;
  - 2 nights Moscow;
  - 7 nights on board the trains.

Note: Day schedule in Ulan-Ude can be changed due to the train schedule with overnight in Irkutsk.

#### **MEALS:**

- Full breakfast in the hotels;
- 3 lunches: Tatar lunch in Kazan // Buryat lunch at Lake Baikal // Russian tea ceremony in Nizhny Novgorod;
- Group tours: welcome dinner;
- Interactive program Tea in Russia & Great Tea Way with tea degustation in Taltsy.

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#### TRANSPORTATION:

- Train tickets of the selected category:
  - Vladivostok—Ulan-Ude;
  - Ulan-Ude—Irkutsk;
  - Irkutsk—Yekaterinburg;
  - Yekaterinburg—Kazan;
  - Kazan—Nizhny Novgorod;
  - Nizhny Novgorod—Moscow.

**Note 1:** All 1st class train tickets are subject to availability.

**Note 2:** If the 1st class train ticket is not available then two 2nd class train tickets will be provided free of charge instead of one 1st class ticket.

**Note 3:** Train schedule may change, tickets are subject of availability; in case of the train schedule changes, Discovery Russia will use other trains and rearrange the tour without deterioration of the program.

- Full metro/public transport passes in Moscow;
- Meet at greet at the airports/train stations;
- Return airport/train station transfers;
- Transportation on tours as per program in a comfortable a/c car/minivan/bus.

>>> Continued on the next page

# discovery RUSSIA

#### **SIGHTSEEING TOURS:**

- All guided tours as per program:
  - Vladivostok full day (8 hours) guided tour: harbour, Submarine S-56,
     Golden Bridge, viewpoint Eagle's Nest, Vokzalnaya Square, the monument of the Trans-Siberian Railway, Vladivostok fortress museum;
  - Ulan-Ude full day (8 hours) guided tour: Atsagatski Datsan, Lenin's head monument, Old town // Ulan-Ude full day (8 hours) guided tour: Ivolginsky Datsan, Old believers village;
  - Lake Baikal (Listvyanka) full day (8 hours) guided tour: Baikal Museum of Limnology, Chersky Stone observation point, local souvenir market;
  - Irkutsk full day (8 hours) guided tour: Taltsy Open Air Siberian Museum, historic downtown;
  - Yekaterinburg full day (8 hours) guided tour: Church of All Saints, Museum of minerals, the Ipatiev House, Europe-Asia border, Pyzhma military museum;
  - Kazan full day (8 hours) guided tour: Kazan Kremlin, Kul Sharif Mosque, Syumbike tower, Chak-Chak museum, Old tatar village, tatar lunch and cooking master-class;
  - Gorodets full day (8 hours) guided tour with Russian craft master-class and Russian tea ceremony;

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#### **SIGHTSEEING TOURS:**

- All guided tours as per program:
  - Nizhny Novgorod day (6 hours) guided tour: the Kremlin, historic downtown;
  - Moscow full day (8 hours) guided tour: the Moscow Kremlin, the Armory, the Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral, Moscow metro tour, Novodevichy convent & Sparrow Hills.
- All entrance tickets as per program;
- Dedicated local English-speaking guide in all places as per program.

#### YOUR COMFORT COUNTS

- Russian visa supporting documents;
- Russian local sim card with data:
- 24/7 English-speaking support line in Russia;

#### **GROUP TOUR ADD ONS:**

- Group tours are fully escorted by bilingual tour director;
- Group size 20 people maximum.

#### **NOT INCLUDED:**

- International flights
- Visa fee
- Extras of Personal nature
- Lunches and dinners not mentioned



#### **General information**

- ✓ In fact, there is no train called the 'Trans-Siberian Express', rather there are many trains going daily eastbound and westbound across Russia, connecting to Mongolia and then to China. You will be surprised by the scale of the system connecting together the world's largest country, thus being a bridge between Asia and Europe. You can even continue to Hong Kong, Vietnam or even Japan by a ferry. The entire system works like a Swiss watch!
- ✓ Russian branded trains offer a high standard of service, design, comfort and additional services. Most trains are air-conditioned and have electric heating and TVs. Some also have Internet connections and cable television. Discovery Russia uses the best available trains for each leg of your train journey.
- ✓ Staff is always available to offer passengers hot tea or coffee, make the beds, provide all necessary information en route and hand out periodicals and safety belts to passengers.
- ✓ Each branded train also offers a range of additional paid services.
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#### Meals on board

- ✓ Branded trains always have a restaurant car with a menu including national dishes and set meals.
- ✓ As you're travelling by train, the menu is limited and sometimes selected positions might not be available daily. Usually, salads and soups are served, main course (steak, schnitzel or fish with rice or potatoes). Typical breakfast includes ham and fried eggs. The restaurant car also have beer, Russian champagne and vodka, chocolate and some snacks. Apart of this, we strongly recommend to try the special Russian on-board tea served in very special Soviet cups. This is a part of your Trans Siberian experience!
- ✓ Passengers with children and people with disabilities may ask the conductor for a waiter and order breakfast, lunch, dinner and other meals from the restaurant with delivery to their compartment. The restaurant car also has special tables for passengers with children and disabled people.



Planning your Trans-Siberian railway holiday, we use the best Russian trains available. There is 1st class, 2-berth compartments, carriage has shower (2 showers per carriage, shared) and 2nd class, 4-berth compartment, no shower. All passengers get a proper flat berth to sleep in, provided with all necessary bedding, convertible to a seat for day use. There are washrooms and toilets along the corridor.

#### 1st class car scheme:



- You can select the type of food
- An extra meal can be provided
- TV
- Press

- Air conditioning
- Travel set
- Bio toilet



Planning your Trans-Siberian railway holiday, we use the best Russian trains available. There is **1st class**, **2-berth compartments**, **with shower** (there are 2 showers per carriage), and **2nd class**, **4-berth compartment**, no shower. All passengers get a proper flat berth to sleep in, provided with all necessary bedding, convertible to a seat for day use. There are washrooms and toilets along the corridor.

#### 2nd class car scheme:



- An extra meal can be provided
- Seats/berths for people with disabilities

- Air conditioning
- Bio toilet

#### **OUR HAND PICKED HOTELS IN THE DOWNTOWNS**



#### **Vladivostok**

**3\*** Sibirskoe Podvorie/Teplo or similar

4\* Astoria/Azimut

5\* Lotte

#### **Ulan-Ude**

**3**\* Ulan-Ude park hotel / Residence of Comfort / Saagan or similar

**4\*** Mergen or similar

#### Irkutsk

**3\*** Mikhail Strogov/Europe/Imperia or similar

4\* Marriott/Armat/Sayen or similar

#### Lake Baikal

**3\*** Krestovaya pad' or similar

**4\*** Mayak/Legenda Baikala or similar

### Yekaterinburg

3\* Marins Park Hotel/Chekhov/Tenet or similar

4\* Onegin/Voznesenskiy/Renome or similar

**5\*** Vysotsky or similar

#### Kazan

**3\*** Nogay/Maxim Gorky or similar

4\* Art Hotel/ Corona or similar

**5\*** Korston Royal/Mirazh or similar

#### **Nizhny Novgorod**

**3\*** Hampton by Hilton/Marins Park/Ibis or similar

**4\*** Azimut/Marriott Courtyard City Center/Gorki similar

5\* Sheraton/Kulibin Park Hotel or similar

#### Moscow

**3\*** Stoleshnikov Boutique Hotel/Apart Hotel Naumov Sretenka/ Forton or similar

4\* Peking/Pushkin/Azimut Smolenskaya or similar

5\* Metropol'\*/National/Savoy or similar

### **Check out other Trans-Siberian tours:**





TRANS SIBERIAN MOSCOW - VLADIVOSTOK

https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/202/



**WESTBOUND EXPRESS 2019** 

https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/174/



LE GRAND TRANS
MONGOLIAN: BEIJING TO ST
PETERSBURG

https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/161/



THE ORIGINAL TRANS
SIBERIAN

https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/227/



THE ULTIMATE TRANS
SIBERIAN 2019
(EASTBOUND)

https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/196/



CHRISTMAS SPECIALS: TRANS
MONGOLIAN EXPRESS

https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/247/