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-UDEN — IRKUTSK — LAKE BAikal
YEKATERINBURG — KAZAN — NIZHNY NOVGOROD —
MOSCOW

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Canada: +1 888 644 87 34
UK & Europe: +44 20 3608 2859

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1 Safe.
2 Secure.
3 Reliable.

• Australian-owned company
• Over 10 years experience in Russia
• 24/7 support

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**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

[www.discoveryrussia.com](http://www.discoveryrussia.com)
In 2018 we have hosted over a thousand travelers and we hope all of them not only enjoyed it but truly discovered Russia! Please have a look at our reviews and feedbacks below from people that have travelled with us.

If you’re hesitating about going to Russia, you may find these reviews useful:
- Facebook https://www.facebook.com/DiscoveryRussiaTravel/reviews/

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Day 1 — Arrival in Vladivostok
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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**ITINERARY**

**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 2**
- Breakfast
- Guided tour in Vladivostok: Harbor, Golden Bridge, Fortress, Submarine 56, Russian Island, fish market
- Boarding the train to Ulan-Ude

**DAY 3-4**
- On board

**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 6**
- Breakfast
- Ivolginsky Datsan
- Old believers village
- 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
- Transfer to Listvyanka village on the shores of Lake Baikal
- Optional evening: Russian banya
- Overnight stay in Listvyanka/or Irkutsk subject to train schedule

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**DAY 8**
- 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

**DAY 9**
- 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

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<td>Guided tour in Kazan</td>
<td>Transfer to the hotel</td>
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<td>Master class on cooking the national Tatar food</td>
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<td>Transfer to the railway station</td>
<td>Guided tour to Gorodets, exploring Central Russia</td>
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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.

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Day 2: Discover Vladivostok

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

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Day 3-4: On board

You’ll spend the next 3 days in the train, watching the landscapes change as you’re getting closer to Russia’s Far East. It is truly one of the most magnificent parts of the itinerary. The train has a dining carriage for your comfort.

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Day 5: Ulan-Ude, Buryatia

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

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

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Day 6: Discover Ulan-Ude

- 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.

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Day 7: Arrival in Irkutsk & Lake Baikal

- 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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Irkutsk: gate to Lake Baikal

Around 1900, the city was nicknamed the "Paris of Siberia" due to its wide streets and ornate, continental architecture but travelers today will find a little resemblance with Paris. This in official capital of Western Siberia is most known for it amazing wooden architecture.
Visit Baikal Museum and the aquarium, where you will see Baikal fish and freshwater seals—nerpas, Shaman Rock, St. Nicholas church and a Fish Market.

Shaman Rock is a natural boundary between the deepest lake in the world and the only river that flows out of the lake—the Angara river. Locals have thousands of legends about this place, which is believed to be the house of one of the Buryat gods.

You will be surrounded by amazing landscapes of the world's largest, oldest and deepest freshwater lake; Baikal

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Day 9: Taltsy & Irkutsk

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

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Day 10: On board

Train ride continues 2 days and 5 hours on the train.
Day 11: Arrival in Yekaterinburg

- 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: Discover Yekaterinburg

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

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Yekaterinburg is the official border between Europe and Asia. You can even travel several times from Europe to Asia and back and of course take a photo standing in two parts of the world simultaneously!

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Day 13: Transfer to Kazan

- 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

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Day 14: Discover Kazan

- 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

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.

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Day 15: Discover Central Russia

- 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
Full day tour to Gorodets - neat little town, famous for its distinct style of folk art. At the time of the schism in the Russian Orthodox Church (1660), Gorodets became home to a population of Old Believers seeking religious sanctuary. They became skillful craftsmen, artists and wealthy tradesmen.

Samovar museum & Russian tea ceremony
Gingerbread museum “Craftsmen town” where you will see golden embroidery, icons, wooden carving and other national crafts.
Day 16: Discover Nizhny Novgorod

- 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 complete 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.

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Day 17: Discover Moscow

- 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
Enjoy a guided visit to the Moscow Kremlin, and see all the treasures of the famous museums. “Kremlin” is not actually a specific place name, but means “fortress”. The most well-known kremlin is of course the one in Moscow, at Red Square.

And Red Square is not actually Red because of the red bricks, but because "red" in the old Russian language meant "beautiful". And "Kremlin" meant a castle. So, there are many kremlins in Russia and in Moscow alone we will show you a few!

Get to know the city by taking a metro ride to the place of your first visit. The Metro is one of the fastest ways to get anywhere in this city, and to avoid traffic jams. Metro is the fastest ways to get anywhere in this city, and to avoid traffic jams.

If you want to see the Bolshoi, it’s a good idea to book your tickets in advance!
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.

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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.

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Day 18: Departure

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

Your Trans Siberian adventure ends here!

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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

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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) - 7,930 / 6,500 AUD
Rate per person (4* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 8,470 / 7,040 AUD

Private Tour, 2 people, 2020, USD
Rate per person (3* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 5,630 / 4,615 USD
Rate per person (4* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 6,010 / 4,995 USD

Private Tour, 2 people, 2020, GBP
Rate per person (3* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 4,365 / 3,575 GBP
Rate per person (4* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 4,660 / 3,870 GBP

Private Tour, 2 people, 2020, CAD
Rate per person (3* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 7,590 / 6,220 CAD
Rate per person (4* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) - 8,510 / 7,070 CAD

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TOUR INCLUSIONS:

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;
- 2 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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TOUR INCLUSIONS:

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: 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

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TOUR INCLUSIONS:

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;

>>> Continued on the next page

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TOUR INCLUSIONS:

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

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TRAINS AND CARS DESCRIPTION

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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TRAINS AND CARS DESCRIPTION

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.

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TRAINS AND CARS DESCRIPTION

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

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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

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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

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Check out other Trans-Siberian tours:

**TRANS SIBERIAN MOSCOW - VLADIVOSTOK**
https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/202/

**LE GRAND TRANS MONGOLIAN: BEIJING TO ST PETERSBURG**
https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/161/

**THE ULTIMATE TRANS SIBERIAN 2019 (EASTBOUND)**
https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/196/

**WESTBOUND EXPRESS 2019**
https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/174/

**THE ORIGINAL TRANS SIBERIAN**
https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/227/

**CHRISTMAS SPECIALS: TRANS MONGOLIAN EXPRESS**
https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/247/

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