

MORE THAN TRAVEL TAILOR- MADE TOURS TO RUSSIA

ENQUIRIES:

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SPECIAL OFFER

Trans Siberian Xmas

Eastbound
St. Petersburg to Vladivostok
21 Days

15 % OFF for group departure

27 December 2019- 16 January 2020

This package is available either

Group Tour (scheduled departures)

or

Private Tour (flexible dates)



Safe.

Secure.



- 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



- 2. Fill in Visa Application form
- 3. Apply to the Embassy or Russian Visa Center personally or send Application, passport, photo to the Embassy or Russian visa Center by mail
- 4. Obtain your Russian visa in the Embassy, Russian Visa Center or by mail





21 days itinerary



Khabarovsk







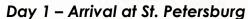
Yekaterinburg



Kazan

Ekaterinburg

Novosibirsk



Day 2-4 - St. Petersburg

Day 5 - Train to Moscow

Day 6-7- Moscow

Day 8 - Moscow-Kazan

Day 9 - Kazan

Day 10 - Kazan-Ekaterinburg

Day 11 - Ekaterinburg

Day 12-13 – On board

Day 14 – Irkutsk / Lake Baikal

Day 15 - Lake Baikal

Day 16 – Lake Baikal / Irkutsk

Day 17, 18, 19 - On board

Day 20 – Vladivostok

Day 21 - Departure









Itinerary



DAY 1

- Hello St. Petersburg
- Meet and greet at St.
 Petersburg airport
- Transfer to the hotel
- Group tour: Welcome dinner with vodka tasting

DAY 5

- Breakfast
- Transfer to railway station,
 board the bullet train for 4
 hours journey to Moscow
- Meet and greet at
 Moscow railway station,
 transfer to the hotel in the
 downtown
- Walking city tour & Christmas markets
- Group tour: NEW YEAR
 Gala Dinner

DAY 2

- Breakfast
- Visiting the Winter Palace and the Hermitage
- Visiting Isaac Cathedral, Kazan Cathedral, visiting the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood
- Visiting Peter & Paul Fortress and royal tombs, passing by Aurora warship cruiser

DAY 6

- Breakfast
- Visiting Kremlin (all the highlights including the Armory)
 - City tour & visit to

 Novodevichy Convent

DAY 3

- Breakfast
- Pushkin/Tsarskoye Selo
- Catherine's palace
- Amber Room
- Russian Troyka ride experience
- Optional: Mariinsky

DAY 7

- Breakfast
- Tretyakov State Art Gallery
- Kolomenskoye Estate
 Wooden Palace
- Metro tour
- VDNKh & skating experience

DAY 4

- Breakfast
- Day at Leisure/optional tours
- Nikolaevsky Palace Russian national performance

DAY 8

- Breakfast
- Free time in Moscow
- Check-out from the
- Transfer to the train station
- Departure for Kazan

Itinerary



DAY 9

- Kazan-Ekaterinburg Early morning arrivina train at Kazan
- railway station Early check-in at the hotel and short rest
- Guided tour in Kazan

DAY 10

DAY 11

DAY 12-13

DAY 14

- Transfer to the hotel and
- check in
- Overnight stay in **Ekaterinburg**
- **Breakfast** Guided tour in **Ekaterinburg**
- Train departure for Irkutsk
- Train ride continues 2 days and 10 hours on the train
- Arrival at Irkutsk
- Transfer to Listvyanka village at Lake Baikal shores (65 km)
- Check-in at the man min him min hotel

DAY 15

Matatal Matatal Matatal Bossell

DAY 20

DAY 21

Breakfast

- **Baikal Museum** of Limnology
- **Chersky Stone** observation point
- Try local Buryat cuisine
- Visit local souvenir market
- Dog sledding

- Breakfast
- Transfer to Irkutsk
- **Visit Taltsy Museum** on the way
- Guided tour in Irkutsk
- Board the train to Vladivostok

On board

- Early arrival in Vladivostok
- Meet and greet at the train station
- Transfer to the hotel and early check-in
- Guided city tour
- Optional late evening excursion
- **Group tour: Farewell** dinner

This is the final day of your long Trans Siberian winter journey!

Transfer to the airport and departure

DAY 1: Arrival in St. Petersburg

discovery

- Hello, St. Petersburg!
- Meet and greet at St. Petersburg airport
- Transfer to your hotel, check-in and free time



DAY 2: Discover St. Petersburg



- Breakfast
- Full day guided tour:
- Visiting the Winter Palace and the Hermitage
- Visiting Isaac Cathedral, Kazan Cathedral, visiting the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood
- Visiting Peter & Paul Fortress & Cathedral with royal tombs





Morning: <u>The Winter Palace and the Hermitage</u> guided tour.

We politely insist you to do it on foot so you can truly understand and feel the city's soul than to explore its secret walking trails. Let us surprise you with unusual homes, architecture, perspectives and stunning views.

Today, you visit one of the most important sites in Russian history and heritage, the world-famous palace of the Hermitage, the former residence of the Royal Family.

<u>The Hermitage today</u> is one of the largest museums in the world, founded in 1764; its collection includes over 2.7 mln items. Our experienced guide will bring the museum to life to her knowledge.

Your guide will take you for a lunch in a local bistro, "stolovaya" where you can try traditional Russian food.

DAY 2: Continued...



Then, take a tour to see the city's iconic landmark: Isaac Cathedral, Kazan Cathedral, and visit the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood — one of the most powerful constructions in Russian Orthodox architecture; an absolutely enthralling must-see and a place where Tsar Alexander II was fatally wounded by anarchists in 1881.

We continue the day with a visit to Peter and Paul Fortress, a place where the city was founded.





DAY 3: Continued...





Russian winter... Incredible, unbelievable time! Winter offers us a change to get a truly Russian experience and take a traditional troika ride. And as we're out of town, we will not miss this opportunity to get stunned by enchanted by winter landscape and dash through the snow on a colorful sleigh pulled by three horses!

DAY 4: At leisure

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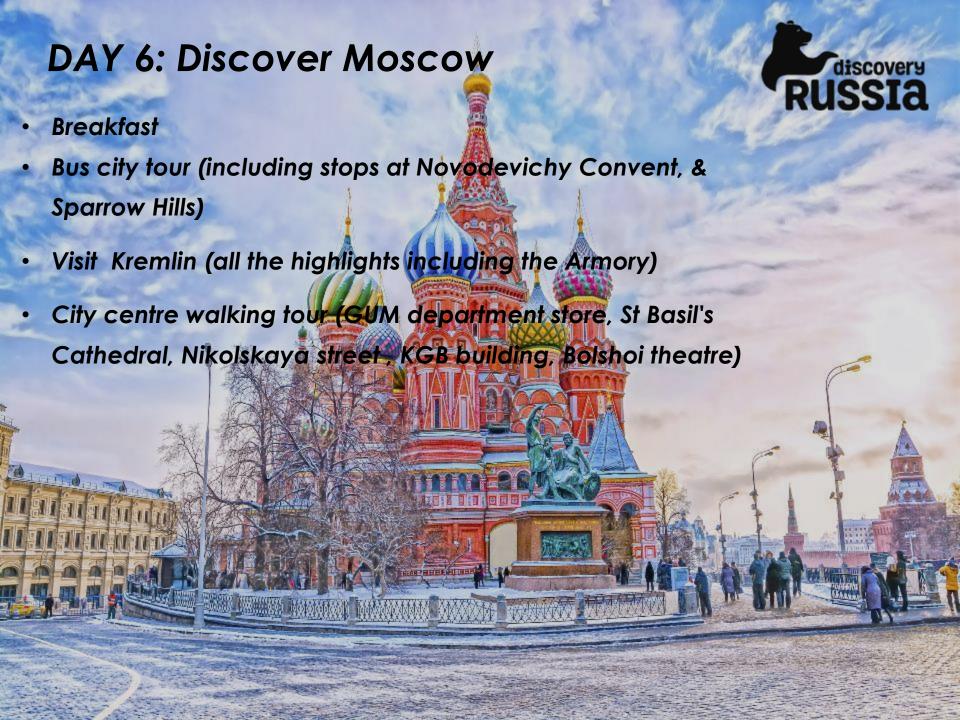
- Breakfast
- Free time in St Petersburg or OPTIONAL tours: Peterhof palace/ Palace square skating / Russian museum/
 Faberge museum/ 1 day tour to Veliky Novgorod

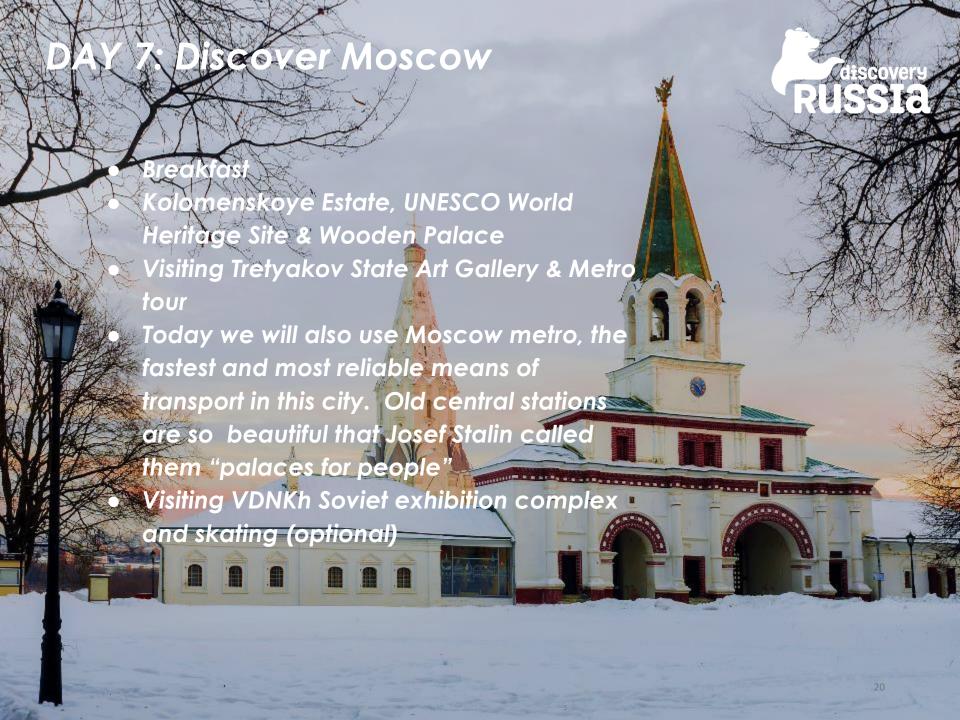














Day 9: Discover Kazan

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- Early arrival in Kazan in the morning
- Meet and greet at the train station
- Transfer to the hotel and guaranteed early check-in
- Full day guided tour: Kazan Kremlin, Kul Sharif Mosque, Syumbike tower, Christmas markets
- Chak-Chak museum
- Old Tatar village
- Tatar cooking master-class & Degustation

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 11: Arrival in Ekaterinburg



- Breakfast
- Romanov's assassination place & Church
- Museum of Semi precious stones and stone carving
- Europe-Asia border
- Pyzhma open-air military museum
- Transfer to the train station
- Departure for Irkutsk



Ekaterinburg 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!



Take a look at the city's main religious institution – Church of All Saints and visit the Ipatiev House – the late Tsar's last resort. Ekaterinburg is most known as a place where the last Romanov Tsar was assassinated after the Revolution.

Here you can also visit the residence of KGB, Gorodok Chekistov, the largest in Russia museum of semi-precious stone that contains a wonderful collection of stone mosaics and carvings and the largest in Russia open-air military museum.



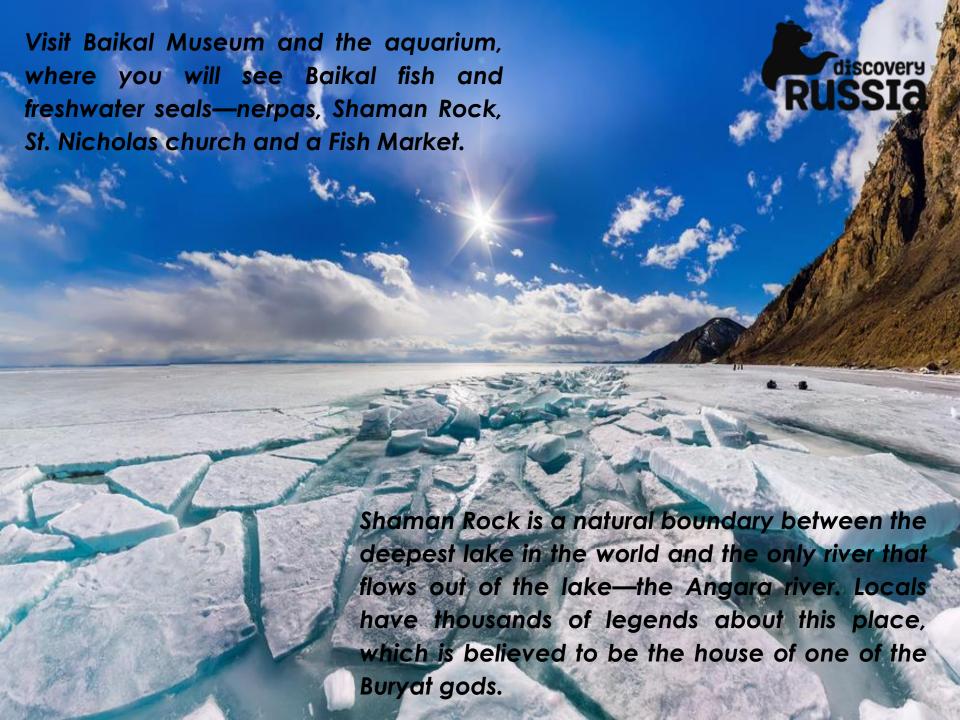
Day 14: Arrival in Irkutsk

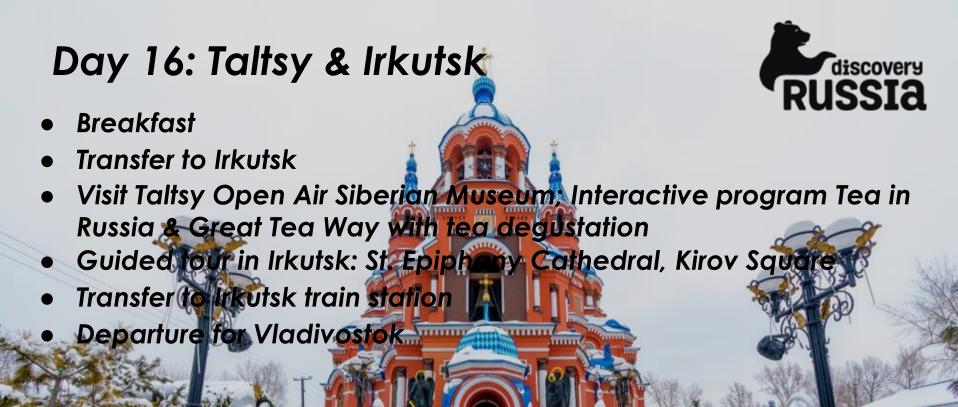
discovery

- Arrival in Irkutsk
- Meet and greet at the train station
- Transfer to Listvyanka village at Lake Baikal
- Siberian lunch at traditional hunter's house "Zaimka"

Day 15: Discover Baikal

- Breakfast
- Baikal Museum of Limnology, Shaman Rock
- Chersky Stone observation point & cable car
- Try local Buryat cuisine
- Visit local souvenir market
- Dog sledding tour!





Irkutsk has a rich history that dates back to 17th century. After the Decembrist Revolt of 1825, many Russian artists, officers, and nobles were sent into exile to Siberia for their part in the revolt against Tsar Nicholas. Irkutsk became the major centre of intellectual and social life for these exiles. You will see many of their wooden houses, adorned with ornate, hand-carved decorations.

The open-air museum Taltsy is located 20 kilometers away from discovery RUSSIA Listvyanka. The exposition features wooden buildings brought from all over Siberia. Right now, 40 landmarked buildings and 8000 artifacts dated by XVII-XIX centuries are presented as part of the exhibition. The museum looks like an ancient village with long streets, wooden houses, water mills, and even a small school. It should be noted, that in the past real village "Taltsy" was located here. However, with the construction of the Ust-Ilimskaya hydroelectric power station, a part of the village came under the threat of flooding. Authorities decided to preserve the unique village and turned it into the museum.



Day 20: Vladivostok. Where the Trans Siberian ends...



- Early arrival in Vladivostok Russian Far East
- Meet and greet at the train station
- Transfer to the hotel and early check-in

lighthouse - "the end of the world" spot

 Guided city tour and Russky Island tour via the second highest bridge in the world//Harbour and Golden Bridge, Submarine -56, Egersheld

Group tour: Farewell dinner

Day 21: Departure



This is the final day of your long Trans Siberian journey!

Transfer to the airport and departure







Group departure: 27 December 2019

GROUP TOUR, AUD

Rate per person 3* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 7,170 / 6,300 AUD Rate per person 4* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 8,270 / 7,400 AUD Rate per person 5* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: on request

GROUP TOUR, USD

Rate per person 3* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 5,085 / 4,470 USD Rate per person 4* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 5,870 / 5,255 USD Rate per person 5* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: on request

GROUP TOUR, GBP

Rate per person 3* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 3,940 / 3,465 GBP Rate per person 4* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 4,550 / 4,070 GBP Rate per person 5* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: on request

GROUP TOUR, CAD

Rate per person 3* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 6,855 / 6,025 CAD Rate per person 4* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 7,910 / 7,080 CAD Rate per person 5* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: on request

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PRIVATE TOUR, 2 people

Starting dates: flexible



PRIVATE TOUR, 2 people, AUD

Rate per person 3* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 9,655 / 8,275 AUD Rate per person 4* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 10,550 / 9,170 AUD

Rate per person 5* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: on request

PRIVATE TOUR, 2 people, USD

Rate per person 3* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 6,850 / 5,870 USD Rate per person 4* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 7,490 / 6,510 USD Rate per person 5* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: on request

PRIVATE TOUR, 2 people, GBP

Rate per person 3* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 5,310 / 4,550 GBP Rate per person 4* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 5,800 / 5,045 GBP Rate per person 5* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: on request

PRIVATE TOUR, 2 people, CAD

Rate per person 3* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 9,235 / 7,915 CAD Rate per person 4* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: 10,095 / 8,770 CAD Rate per person 5* hotels, sharing 1 twin/double room, 1st/2nd class train: on request

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INCLUSIONS:

Accommodation:

- 3* / 4* / centrally located hand-picked hotels:
 - 4 nights St. Petersburg;
 - 3 nights Moscow;
 - o 1 night in Kazan with early check-in;
 - 1 night Ekaterinburg;
 - 2 nights Irkutsk/Lake Baikal;
 - 1 night Vladivostok with early check-in.
 - 5* hotels on request
- 8 nights on board.

Meals:

- Full breakfast in the hotels;
- 4 lunches: Nikoaevsky Palace dinner in St Petersbrug//Buryat lunch at Lake Baikal// Russian lunch in Taltsy-Irkutsk // Tatar cooking master class in Kazan;
- Group tour: Welcome dinner & Farewell dinner
- Group tour: New Year Gala Dinner



INCLUSIONS:



Transportation:

- Train tickets*:
 - St. Petersburg Moscow bullet train;
 - Moscow - Kazan;
 - Kazan Ekaterinburg;
 - Ekaterinburg Irkutsk;
 - Irkutsk Vladivostok.

TRAIN CONFIGURATION:

1st class carriage: 2 seats compartments. 2nd class carriage: 4 seats compartments.

One seat at each leg of the train journey is included. Should you prefer to have extra seat/seats per person, please inquire.

NOTE: All train tickets are subject to availability.

1st class train tickets supply is limited especially during peak season. If 1st class is not available/or not provided by the railway company at a certain leg of your journey, two seats in a 2nd class carriage will be provided per person at no extra costs.

INCLUSIONS:

Transportation:

- 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;
- Full metro/public transport passes in Moscow

Sightseeing:

- All guided tours as per program with professional Englishspeaking guides:
 - St. Petersburg tours as specified;
 - Moscow tours as specified;
 - Kazan tour as specified;
 - Ekaterinburg tours as specified;
 - Irkutsk & Listvyanka tours as specified;
 - Vladivostok tour as specified.

Entrance tickets, visas & misc:

- Entrance Tickets to all listed attractions;
- Russian visa supporting documents;
- Russian local sim card with data;
- 24/7 English-speaking support line in Russia.

Group tour:

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

Plan it wisely. Travel with Discovery Russia



NOT INCLUDED:

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

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OPTIONAL TOURS: ASK YOUR TRAVEL MANAGER FOR MORE DETAILS

discovery RUSSIA

MOSCOW

COLD WAR TRACES: SECRET ANTI-NUCLEAR BUNKER -42 (minimum 2 people to go)

Rate per person): AUD 120

EXTRA NIGHT STAY (the same for Moscow & St. Petersburg)

Rate per person (3*): AUD 75
Rate per person (4*): AUD 130
Rate per person (5*): AUD 230

TANK T-62 DRIVING

(45 min ride, 2 tank shoots, Kalashnikov rifle shooting, minimum 2 people to go)

Rate per person: AUD 1850

SAINT PETERSBURG

DAY TRIP TO VELIKY NOVGOROD (minimum 2 people to go)

- Transfer to Veliky Novgorod by train
- Guided tour including Kremlin, St. Sophia's Cathedral, "1000 years of Russia" monument
- Beautiful white stone ancient architecture
- Vitoslavlitsy museum of wooden architecture
- Return to St. Petersburg by train

Rate per person: AUD 250

MARIINSKY BALLET

• Ticket only (no guidance/transportation)

Rate per person: from AUD 80

COSSACK SHOW

Ticket only (no guidance/transportation)

Rate per person: AUD 105

FABERGE TOUR WITH AUDIO GUIDE (minimum 2 people to go)

Ticket only (no guidance/transportation)

Rate per person: AUD 75

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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. We draw your attention, exact configuration of the train cannot be guaranteed. Shower in the first-class carriage is not guaranteed. 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 carriage: 2 seats compartments.



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

- Air conditioning
- Travel set
- **Toilet**

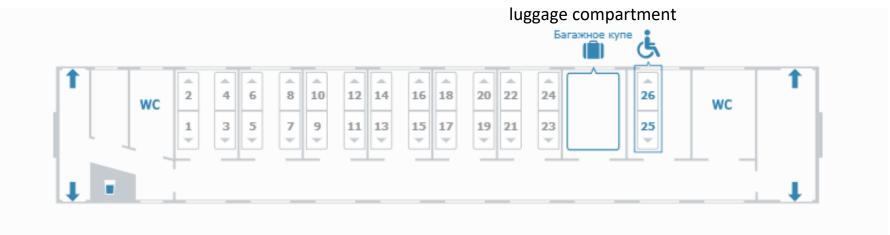
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Planning your Trans-Siberian railway holiday, we use the best Russian trains available. We draw your attention, exact configuration of the train cannot be guaranteed. There is no shower in the second-class carriage. Seats/berths for people with disabilities and air conditioning are not guaranteed. 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 carriage: 4 seats compartments.



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

- Air conditioning
- Toilet

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Check out other Trans-Siberian tours:





TRANS SIBERIAN MOSCOW - VLADIVOSTOK

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



LE GRAND TRANS
MONGOLIAN

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



THE ULTIMATE TRANS
SIBERIAN 2019

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



EASTBOUND EXPRESS MOSCOW TO BEIJING

https://discoveryrussia.com/tour/220/



THE ORIGINAL TRANS
SIBERIAN

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



CHRISTMAS SPECIALS: TRANS
MONGOLIAN EXPRESS

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