



Trans Mongolian Railway Tour

16 days from \$4999

Per person twin share including flights

Book by 31 January 2019



Departs 05, 19, 26 April 2019

More dates available in 2019 from \$5999 per person – please enquire.



Introduction

Incredible doesn't begin to describe this railway journey from Russia to China. Beginning in Moscow, your trip on the legendary Trans-Siberian Railway will take you across the steppe to experience secluded Mongolia's colourful culture. Disembark and spend a night in a ger before continuing on to the palaces of Beijing. An experienced tour guide will lead the way and take care of the details so you're free to enjoy one of the world's greatest train rides. Whether on board or off, this will be 16 days to remember for the rest of your life.

- Journey by train across the steppe
- Dine on Lake Baikal's fish
- Admire Red Square and Chinese temples
- Spend the night in a traditional Mongolian ger
- Wander Beijing's hutongs

Includes:

- Return economy airfares from Australian Capital Cities to Moscow and Beijing.
- Extra \$275 from Canberra and Hobart. extra \$600 from Darwin
- Your Local Living Moment: Traditional Ger Stay
- Gorkhi Tereij National Park
- Trans-Siberian Railway
- Trans-Mongolian Railway
- Irkutsk city tour
- Great Wall entrance (Beijing)
- Local meal suggestions and language and border-crossing support throughout.
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities.

Duration: 16 days.

Start/Finish City: Moscow to Beijing

Service Level: Standard

Comfortable tourist-class accommodations with character; mix of public and private transport.

Physical Grading: 2 - Light

Light walking and hiking suitable for most fitness levels. Nothing too challenging.

Travel Style: Rail

Get closer to the big cities, isolated communities, and stunning landscapes of the world's greatest destinations via train-based adventures on iconic rail routes.

Trip Type: Small Group

Small group experience; Max 16, avg 12.

Highlights

Journey by train across the steppe, dine on Lake Baikal's fish, admire Red Square and Chinese temples, spend the night in a traditional Mongolian ger, wander Beijing's hutongs.



Itinerary

Day 1 Moscow

Arrive at any time. Want to experience St Petersburg? Book the St Petersburg Express, a four-day pre-tour package. Speak to your Global Connection Officer or travel agent to book.

There are no planned activities until an evening welcome meeting.

Want to explore more of Russia? Add the “St Petersburg Express” to your adventure and spend three days getting to know the city with the guidance of a tour guide. This nifty package includes arrival transfer, two nights accommodation in St Petersburg, a guided walking tour, entrance to the Hermitage, and wraps up with an overnight train ride to Moscow with free time before the next leg of your journey begins. Speak to your Global Connection Officer or travel agent to book.

Arrival Day and Welcome Meeting

1h18:00

The adventure begins tonight. Feel free to explore before your welcome meeting, but make sure you’re back in time to meet the group. After introductions, your **TOUR GUIDE** will review the details of your tour. Please note that normal check-in times apply at our start hotels, but you can usually store your luggage for the day if you arrive early.

Accommodation

Best Western Izmailovo Vega Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

St. Petersburg Express

Saint-Petersburg – Moscow

Want to begin your adventure with a taste of St Petersburg? Add the “St Petersburg Express” and experience this cultural centre with the guidance of a **TOUR GUIDE**.

Spend two nights in the city, explore on a walking tour, and visit the famed Hermitage with included entrance. Cap it off with an overnight train to Moscow with some free time before your tour begins.

Day 2 Moscow

Enjoy free time to explore Moscow's numerous museums and galleries, the Kremlin, or Lenin's Mausoleum.

Ride the metro and check out the beautiful stations, visit Red Square, the Kremlin, and St Basil's, or line up to catch a glimpse of an embalmed dictator.

Free Time

Moscow Full Day

With so much to see and do in this historic city, don't waste a minute.

Accommodation

Best Western Izmailovo Vega Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Day 3 Moscow

Board the train and start one of the world's most famous rail routes. Journey 88 hours across the Ural Mountains and through the wilds of the Siberian taiga forests. Arrive in the evening on Day 6.

Please be advised that some of the train rides can be quite lengthy. We recommend bringing along books and games to play with your fellow travellers, as it will enhance the rail experience.

Basic overnight train (beds)

Moscow – Irkutsk

Experience overnight travel like a local. Sit back and get some well-earned (and likely much-needed) rest en route to your next stop.

Day 4 Trans-Siberian Railway

Continue on your journey and soak in the amazing landscapes. Share laughs and drinks with fellow passengers— Russians and foreigners alike.

Basic overnight train (beds)

Moscow – Irkutsk

Experience overnight travel like a local. Sit back and get some well-earned (and likely much-needed) rest en route to your next stop.

Day 5 Trans-Siberian Railway

Continue on your journey and soak in the amazing landscapes. Share laughs and drinks with fellow passengers— Russians and foreigners alike.

Basic overnight train (beds)

Moscow – Irkutsk

Experience overnight travel like a local. Sit back and get some well-earned (and likely much-needed) rest en route to your next stop.

Day 6 Trans-Siberian Railway

Continue on your journey and soak in the amazing landscapes. Share laughs and drinks with fellow passengers— Russians and foreigners alike.

Basic overnight train (beds)

Moscow – Irkutsk

Experience overnight travel like a local. Sit back and get some well-earned (and likely much-needed) rest en route to your next stop.

Day 7 Irkutsk/Listvyanka

Arrive into Irkutsk in the morning. Enjoy a walking tour of Irkutsk before driving to the village of Listvyanka. Overnight in a guesthouse on the shore of Lake Baikal. Enjoy incredible local meals prepared by your host.

Irkutsk Guided City Tour

Irkutsk2h

Enjoy a guided tour of Irkutsk and learn about the history of how this Siberian gem came to be. Soak in the beautiful architecture of the quaint wooden houses and visit the bustling central market.

Private Vehicle

Irkutsk – Listvyanka 2h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Listvyanka Full Day

Enjoy the Siberian countryside any way you wish -- there's plenty to do!

Accommodation**Usadba Demidova (or similar)**

Guesthouse

Meals included:

Dinner

Day 8 Listvyanka

Free day to explore the shores of Lake Baikal. Opt to try a banya (Russian sauna), go on a boat trip on the lake, or take an invigorating swim.

Accommodation**Usadba Demidova (or similar)**

Guesthouse

Meals included:

Breakfast | Dinner

Day 9 Listvyanka/Ulaanbaatar

Board the train in the early morning and settle in for a full day of train travel. Cross the border into Mongolia and watch the scenery change from dense forests to grassland.

These train rides are relaxation days built right into the itinerary. Stare out the window, explore the train, jump out at stations to see what's going on, or just read and play cards. The journey is what you make of it.

A restaurant car is normally not provided on this train, so take the opportunity to stock up on food and drinks for the ride. Don't worry, there are always kiosks on the platforms selling a variety of items from chocolate to instant mashed potatoes to vodka.

Border Crossing (Russia - Mongolia)

Naushki – Sukhbaatar station 2h

Fill out forms, present passports, and get stamped out of Russia. Take some time to explore the Russian border town of Naushki before continuing to the Mongolian side.

Fill out forms, hand over your passport again, and that's it. Welcome to Mongolia!

Basic overnight train (beds)

Irkutsk – Ulaanbaatar

Experience overnight travel like a local. Sit back and get some well-earned (and likely much-needed) rest en route to your next stop.

Day 10 Ulaanbaatar

Arrive in Mongolia and spend some time getting to know the capital city.

Accommodation

J Hotel (or similar)

Hotel



Day 11 Ulaanbaatar/Gorkhi Terelj National Park

Drive to nearby Terelj National Park to stay in a traditional ger (yurt). Options to hike, or try traditional archery.

Your Local Living Moment: Traditional Ger Stay

Enjoy the simple life in the grasslands of Mongolia. Stay in traditional gers, which are round wooden tents covered in felt, with a stove in the middle. There are beds inside the spacious interior and the gers stay quite cozy, even in Mongolia's brutal winters.

Enjoy some typical Mongolian fare and try your hand at archery, or opt to hike to a Tibetan monastery with a beautiful view of the surrounding landscape.

Accommodation

Ger Camp (or similar)

Ger

Meals included:

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day 12 Gorkhi Terelj National Park/Ulaanbaatar

Head back to Ulaanbaatar with a free day to explore the capital. Opt to visit the local Chinggis Brewery, watch a cultural show with Mongolian throat singing, or visit the Gandan Monastery for a taste of Tibetan Buddhism.

This sleepy capital is an evolving city, showing many signs of its Soviet past contrasted with an increasing Chinese influence and a re-emergence of traditional Mongolia. Don't forget to sample some Mongolian barbecue straight from the source and try locally brewed beer from the Chinggis Brewery.

Private Vehicle

Gorkhi Terelj National Park – Ulaanbaatar Morning 40km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Ulaanbaatar

Head out and explore this remote capital city with an international feel.

Accommodation

J Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 13 Ulaanbaatar/Beijing

Board the train for the final 30 hr train ride. At the border, the train changes wheels to match the different gauge. Opt to stay on the train and watch.

Train

Ulaanbaatar – Beijing

Climb aboard, take a seat, and enjoy the ride.

Border Crossing (Mongolia - China)

Zamiin Uud – Erenhot 3h30m-4h

Say 'bayartai' to Mongolia and 'ni hao' to China.

Meals included:

Breakfast

Day 14 Ulaanbaatar/Beijing

Arrive in Beijing and start exploring this buzzing capital of China. Opt to visit the Forbidden City or Tiananmen Square.

Choose which sights to visit in this massive city— the Temple of Heaven, Summer Palace, or the Lama Temple Monastery.

Opt to get lost in Beijing's hutongs— traditional alleys hiding a labyrinth of courtyard dwellings— or shop for bargains in one of the many markets.

Train

Ulaanbaatar – Beijing Morning

Arrive in the afternoon and head to the hotel.

Accommodation

Chong Wen Men Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Day 15 Beijing

Enjoy an included visit to the Great Wall and walk along the Mutianyu section.

Great Wall Mutianyu Visit

Mutianyu – Beijing 3h

Climb the rolling hills of Huairou County at Mutianyu, one of the best-preserved sections of the Great Wall. Enjoy scenic views as the wall winds along mountain ridges, and take brag-worthy photos of the wall from any of the 22 towers.

Accommodation

Chong Wen Men Hotel (or similar)

Hotel

Day 16 Beijing

Depart at any time.



DESTINATION INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAYS BOOKING CONDITIONS

Please read this information prior to making your reservation

BROCHURE VALIDITY

The information presented in our brochure is correct to the best of our knowledge, but is subject to change without notice. Changes can occur with respect to prices, itineraries, duration of holidays, service standards, tour content, airfares and schedules. This is out of our control. Please ensure you advise details of your requirements at the time of booking.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

The Australian GST does not apply to international travel. Any service fees, courier, cancellation and amendment fees are subject to GST. You will be charged GST where applicable.

DEPOSIT

A deposit is required to confirm your booking (varies depending on package booked). Receipt of deposit will be taken as an understanding by Destination International Holidays that the customer has checked their confirmed travel arrangements and has read and agreed to the terms and conditions.

FINAL PAYMENT

Payment in full must be made no less than 90 days before travel, unless required earlier by any supplier.

PRICES

All prices for our tours are advised in Australian Dollars (\$AUD). They are based on airfares, schedules and tariffs at

the time of printing. Destination International Holidays reserves the right to vary the cost of the tour, taxes and airline prices if necessary by reason of currency fluctuation, cost increase, or airfare increase. All prices are subject to confirmation from local tour operators. Once full payment has been received by Destination International no surcharges in respect to currency fluctuations will be applied.

ITINERARY CHANGES

Destination International Holidays reserves the right to amend the itinerary for reasons such as service requirements, road or weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances. Where a change is of a significant nature, it will be advised to our customers in writing. Destination International Holidays reserves the right to substitute hotels, lodges, inns and camps with properties of similar standard

AMENDMENT FEES

Any deviation to packages advertised or quotes will incur a fee of \$150 per person.

Should you need to alter your confirmed reservations, there will be an automatic fee charged of \$150 per amendment or transaction, plus any new arrangements made. Additionally, there may be cancellation fees levied by the tour operator or fees may be applicable where arrangements have been pre-purchased.

In addition, we charge

- \$50 per person for all airline seat reservations and baggage charges plus any airline fees.
- \$100 per person for all Tourist visa processing plus the cost for the visa fee.
- \$75 per person to reissue any travel documents lost in the mail.
- \$100 per person to process insurance claims when travel insurance has not been purchased from this office.

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellation fees will be levied relative to the amount of notice given as follows:

Days' Notice	90 or more	75-90	65-75	65-1
	Loss of Deposit and 50% loss of fare	75%	85%	100%

The above are Destination International Holidays cancellation fees. Airlines and Tour Operators may have additional fees. Transfer of a confirmed booking to another tour or departure date is deemed a cancellation of the original booking. There will be no refund for cancellation of unused services on or after commencement date. Please note that employees of any overseas suppliers are not authorised by Destination International Holidays to make any undertakings to our clients in respect of refunds or other matters.

ACCOMMODATION

There will be variations in the size, standard and presentation of rooms and facilities within the one hotel. This is beyond the control of Destination International Holidays.

CLAIMS

If you encounter any problems on your holiday, you should try and solve it directly with the supplier whilst overseas. If it is not possible to do so please do so in writing within 30 days of completing your Destination International Holidays arrangements.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

You must be insured for the duration of your trip. You need comprehensive travel insurance to cover cancellation, health requirements, luggage and additional expenses. Insurance policies rarely cover for loss of cash.

PASSPORT, VISA & VACCINATIONS

You must familiarise yourself with any visa and health requirements that may be applicable in the countries you are visiting. You are responsible for all entry/exit health and any other documents required by laws, regulations, orders, demands or requirements of countries visited or transited. Please note that passport and visa requirements are not the responsibility of Destination International Holidays. We will not be held liable for any loss or expense due to the failure to comply with the above. We recommend that you be in possession of a passport valid for at least 6 months beyond your intended stay overseas.

CONSULAR ADVICE

Official travel advice issued by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is available by calling 1300 555 135 or visiting their web site www.dfat.gov.au. You must review this information both prior to making your booking and prior to departure.

TOUR CONDITIONS

Destination International Holidays does not itself provide carriage services, accommodation, transport or tours. Destination International Holidays acts as an agent for the "Service Providers"). All products and services provided by Service Providers are provided on those Service Providers own terms and conditions which may include

limitations and exclusions of liability. All bookings with Destination International Holidays and all tickets, vouchers, receipts, coupons, exchange orders and other like documents issued to the client, are subject to each Service Providers terms and conditions governing the provision of products and services to be provided by that Service provider. Destination International Holidays shall not be liable for any acts, omissions or defaults whether negligent or otherwise, of any Service Providers. Destination International Holidays shall not be liable (whether in contract, tort or otherwise) for any injury, illness, death, loss, damage, expense, delay or inconvenience resulting directly or indirectly from circumstances outside of Destination International Holidays control, including acts of nature, war, civil disturbances, strikes, floods, acts of government or authorities, breakdowns, accidents, disease, quarantine, terrorism, medical or customs regulations, and alterations, cancellations or delays concerning itineraries, timetables or accommodation.

CONTRACT

The contract between Destination International Holidays is governed by the laws of the State of Victoria. By booking with Destination International Holidays the client agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions referred to in our brochure.