



Golden Eagle Silk Road Express



CHINA

GOLDEN EAGLE SILK ROAD EXPRESS: ANCIENT CHINA BY PRIVATE TRAIN

(TOUR CODE: 14779)

STARTS AND ENDS

Urumqi to
Beijing

TRAVEL PERIODS

29 Mar 27 - 11 Sep 27

EXPERIENCE

Luxury
Cultural
Rail

TRAVEL STYLE

Rail Holiday Packages

Embark on an unforgettable 12-day journey through ancient China, where history, culture, and beauty converge aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express. Traverse imperial capitals, desert oases and ancient cities, visiting Beijing, Xi'an, Dunhuang, Kashgar and more. Experience the Terracotta Warriors, the Great Wall and the Mogao Caves

Highlights

- Explore the Mogao Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage Site famed for its ancient Buddhist art. This “Cave of a Thousand Buddhas” is a spiritual oasis that has inspired pilgrims and artists for centuries.
- Visit the Apak Khoja Tomb, a stunningly adorned mausoleum considered the holiest Muslim site in Xinjiang.
- Visit the awe-inspiring Terracotta Army – a life-sized army of soldiers, chariots, and horses, buried with China's First Emperor to protect him in the afterlife. This UNESCO site, often hailed as the Eighth Wonder of the World, offers a mesmerising insight into ancient Chinese beliefs and artistry
- Learn the ancient tradition of hand-weaving exquisite silk and carpets at the Atlas Silk and Carpet Workshop
- Delight in an authentic Tang Dynasty dinner, where the ambiance is enhanced by a captivating performance of traditional music and dance, evoking the grandeur of ancient Xi'an

Embark on an extraordinary journey through ancient China aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express. This exclusive voyage takes you through Beijing, Xi'an, Dunhuang, Hotan, Kashgar, and beyond, showcasing imperial capitals, desert oases, and ancient cities. Visit iconic sites such as the Terracotta Warriors, the Great Wall, and the UNESCO-listed Mogao Caves, known for their stunning Buddhist art.



INCLUSIONS

- Quality pre and post-tour accommodation in Beijing and Urumqi
- 2-night hotel stay in the Four Seasons Beijing (or similar)
- 8-nights private ensuite accommodation on the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express
- 1-night hotel stay in Urumqi
- Freshly prepared meals on board
- Authentic dining experiences in local restaurants
- Inclusive alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages from standard bar list
- Cabin attendant service including evening turndown
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Experienced Tour Management team
- Services of a UK-registered Doctor and medical facilities on board
- Expertly guided off-train excursions
- Luggage portage throughout the journey
- All gratuities

ITINERARY

Day 1 Urumqi

Upon arrival in Urumqi, guests will be warmly welcomed and transferred in luxury to the Conrad Urumqi, where a one-night

stay awaits. This city is the cosmopolitan capital of Xinjiang, home to numerous ethnic groups and brimming with the vibrant energy of East meets West.

That evening, join fellow travellers for an exclusive welcome reception and dinner, setting the tone for an exceptional journey along the Silk Road.

Dinner

Day **2**

Turpan

After a relaxing morning in Urumqi, board the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express, your luxurious home for the next stage of the journey. Settle into your elegantly appointed cabin and take some time to become acquainted with life on board before joining your fellow travellers in the dining car for a welcome lunch. As the train travels east across the sweeping landscapes of western China, sit back and enjoy the exceptional comfort and attentive service that define this private rail experience as it makes its way towards its first destination, Turpan.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **3**

Turpan & Urumqi

Begin the day by exploring the Ancient City of Gaochang, once a thriving Silk Road outpost and an important hub for merchants travelling between East and West. Walking among its atmospheric ruins offers a fascinating glimpse into a city that flourished for centuries along the ancient trade routes.

After lunch, visit the remarkable Karez irrigation system, an ingenious network of underground channels that has brought life-sustaining water to this arid region for centuries and remains one of the great engineering achievements of the ancient world.

Later, continue to the Jiaohe Ruins, the remains of a dramatic ancient city carved from a natural plateau of rock. Its distinctive layout and well-preserved streets, temples and dwellings reflect the remarkable ingenuity of the communities who once lived here.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



GAOCHANG

Day 4

Kashgar

Today, delve into Kashgar, a city that has long been a melting pot of cultures, religions, and architecture. Begin with a visit to the Apak Khoja Tomb, a stunningly adorned mausoleum considered the holiest Muslim site in Xinjiang. Wander through the Old Town, where narrow alleys and traditional homes provide a glimpse into local life, and explore the Gaotai folk houses, an area steeped in history and tradition.

A delightful lunch in a local restaurant introduces guests to the diverse flavours of Uyghur cuisine before returning to the train to continue your journey.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



APAK KHOJA TOMB, KASHGAR

Day 5

Hotan

Step back in time with a tour of Yotkan Ancient City. Once the heart of the Buddhist Kingdom of Khotan, this ancient city flourished along the Silk Road, its temples and cultural centres revealing Hotan's rich legacy as a nexus of trade and

spirituality.

Enjoy also an exclusive visit to Hotan's Atlas Silk and Carpet Workshop. Here, witness master artisans create intricate silk fabrics and carpets using time-honoured techniques passed down through generations.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 6

Golmud

Your day in Golmud includes an enlightening lecture at the Hilton Qinghai-Golmud on the Silk Road's history, highlighting its role as a bridge between East and West.

Guests may then choose between two contrasting experiences: a visit to the remarkable Chaerhan Salt Lake, where vast salt flats and striking mineral formations create a surreal and otherworldly landscape, or a guided exploration of Golmud's lively city streets, providing a glimpse into everyday life in this remote desert city.

Later, return to the train and re-board the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express to continue your journey.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Dunhuang

Arriving in Dunhuang, explore the Mogao Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage Site famed for its ancient Buddhist art. This “Cave of a Thousand Buddhas” is a spiritual oasis that has inspired pilgrims and artists for centuries, adorned with vibrant murals and statues that date back over a thousand years. Local folk artists serenade guests with music, adding an atmospheric touch to your journey through this sacred complex.

After a delightful lunch, embark on a camel trek along the Silk Road to the enchanting Crescent Lake, an oasis nestled among towering dunes. This tranquil crescent-shaped lake has endured millennia of desert winds and remains a cherished symbol of resilience and beauty.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Onboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express

Today is yours to relax and enjoy the luxurious amenities of the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express. Take in panoramic views from the Observation Car, which features the largest train window in China, or unwind in the lounge with a fine selection of wines and cocktails. Revel in the experience of luxury rail travel, with every detail carefully designed for your comfort and enjoyment.

Later this evening you'll arrive into Xi'an, one of China's most historic cities. Tonight, delight in an authentic Tang Dynasty dinner, where the elegant setting is enhanced by a captivating performance of traditional music and dance, evoking the splendour and cultural richness of ancient Xi'an.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



GOLDEN EAGLE SILK ROAD EXPRESS

Day 9

Xi'an

In Xi'an, explore the impressive ancient city walls before visiting the historic Great Mosque of Xi'an, one of the oldest and largest mosques in China. Uniquely blending traditional Chinese architectural elements with Islamic design, it reflects centuries of cultural exchange along the historic trade routes.

Later, visit the awe-inspiring Terracotta Army — a vast collection of life-sized soldiers, chariots and horses created to guard the tomb of Qin Shi Huang in the afterlife. Often described as the “Eighth Wonder of the World,” this remarkable archaeological discovery offers a fascinating insight into the beliefs, craftsmanship and ambition of ancient China.

In the evening, join a farewell dinner aboard the train as you bid farewell to the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express, celebrating the unforgettable experiences and friendships formed along the journey.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



TERRACOTTA WARRIORS, XI AN

Day 10

Beijing

Upon arrival in China's capital, enjoy a comprehensive tour of Beijing's historic heart, revealing the grandeur of the country's imperial past. Explore the magnificent Forbidden City, the vast palace complex from which Chinese emperors ruled for almost 500 years. Stroll across the immense Tiananmen Square, a site of immense historical significance, before continuing to the tranquil Summer Palace, a serene retreat of lakes, temples and landscaped gardens once favoured by the imperial court.

Alternatively, guests may choose to discover Beijing's modern side with a tour of its contemporary architectural landmarks. Marvel at the impressive structures of the Olympic Village, including the iconic Beijing National Stadium, glimpse the striking headquarters of China Central Television, and explore the National Museum of China for a modern perspective on the country's rich cultural evolution.

After touring, guests will be transferred in comfort to the prestigious Four Seasons Hotel Beijing, where a two-night stay awaits.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 11 Beijing

Your adventure begins with a morning visit to the Great Wall at Badaling, one of the most iconic symbols of ancient China. Here, you can walk along a beautifully restored section, soaking in the breathtaking views and imagining the historical figures who once guarded this marvel. In the afternoon, enjoy leisure time to explore Beijing's lively mix of ancient traditions and modern vibrancy.

That evening, gather for a sophisticated dining experience at a celebrated Peking Duck restaurant. This Beijing speciality, cherished for centuries, is expertly prepared and carved at your table, offering a delectable insight into Chinese culinary mastery.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 12 Beijing

On your final morning, enjoy transfers to Beijing's international airport for your onward journey. Leaving with memories of China's treasures and the unforgettable sights of the Silk Road, we hope your journey has been as extraordinary as the history of the lands you have traversed.

Breakfast

ACCOMMODATION

Golden Eagle Silk Road Express

UPGRADE AVAILABLE

LIFE ABOARD THE GOLDEN EAGLE SILK ROAD EXPRESS

Step into a world of opulence aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express, where every detail of your accommodation has been crafted to offer the ultimate in luxury. Choose from two elegantly designed cabin classes: the Superior Cabin, configurable as a twin or large-size bed, or the Han Dynasty Suite, where lavish comfort takes centre stage.

Each cabin blends the ornate design of the Orient with the grandeur of a by-gone era, providing an exquisite home as you embark on a luxury adventure along the ancient Silk Road. Continue below to discover more about the refined elegance awaiting you onboard.

SUPERIOR CABIN

The Superior cabin on the *Golden Eagle* Silk Road Express offers an elegant retreat, blending comfort and style across 11sqm of thoughtfully designed space. By day, relax in two single sofas, perfect for unwinding as you take in the scenery. By night, the cabin transforms into your choice of twin single beds or a large double bed for restful slumber.

Every detail has been curated for your comfort, with features including a Dyson hairdryer, smart toilet, minibar, full-length wardrobe and a cosy sofa chair. A 2.5 sqm en-suite bathroom completes the experience, offering modern luxury within a setting of timeless design.

- Sleeps 1 or 2 with either 2 Single Beds (190cm x 75cm) or 1 Large Double Bed (190cm L x 170 cm W)
- Cabin Size (535cm L x 205cm W) (11sqm)

- Bathroom Size (2.5sqm)
- Wardrobe (80 cm x 70 cm x 202cm)
- Single Sofa Chair
- Remote controlled air-conditioning, heating and humidifier
- Recessed lighting and wardrobe
- Private en-suite bathroom with smart TOTO toilet and full power shower.
- Bathrobes, slippers, Dyson hairdryer and toiletries provided (included Aesop and Bvlgari hair and body care products)
- Personal safe
- Built in mini bar and fridge
- Towels and linens changed every third day or daily on request
- Complimentary tea, coffee and mineral water in cabin available at all times
- Complimentary drinks from the Bar Lounge Car included (excluding Premium Wine List)
- Laundry service available at an additional charge

Room Upgrades

Han Dynasty Suite

The Han Dynasty Suite on the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express is the epitome of luxury travel, offering an expansive 22.2 sqm cabin designed to provide the ultimate in comfort and elegance. Featuring a large double bed and a double sofa, this suite invites you to unwind in your own private sanctuary as you journey through the heart of the ancient Silk Road.

With a separate living room, a dressing table and a dining table for in-cabin dining, every detail has been thoughtfully crafted to ensure a truly indulgent experience. The 5.2 sqm en-suite bathroom features a bathtub, shower, and double sinks, combining modern convenience with timeless opulence. Premium amenities, including a Dyson hairdryer, smart toilet, minibar, and full-length wardrobe, ensure your every need is met as you travel in unparalleled style.

Exemplary service starts with a complimentary bottle of *Dom Perignon* champagne when you board the train to toast the start of your wonderful adventure.

A note for Han Dynasty Suite guests:

A private guide and chauffeured car service is included in many of the destinations that will be visited on your journey, however, in locations where there are a limited number of experienced and qualified tour guides available, you may be offered a shared car service among Han Dynasty Suite guests. Han Dynasty Suite guests will also benefit from laundry service and room upgrades to the next available category at the hotels which are featured in the itinerary.

- Sleeps 2 in a large double bed (190cm L x 170 cm W)
- Separate living room (475 cm x 205 cm) with double sofa
- Remote controlled air-conditioning, heating and humidifier
- Recessed lighting and wardrobe
- Dressing table, dining Table and personal safe
- Private en-suite bathroom (5.2 sqm) with smart TOTO toilet, deluxe bathtub and double sink
- Bathrobes, slippers, Dyson hairdryer provided
- Luxury toiletries and amenities provided, including Hermès, Aesop and Bvlgari
- Complimentary built in minibar and fridge
- Wardrobe
- Towels and linens changed every third day or daily on request
- Complimentary tea, coffee and mineral water available at all times
- In-cabin dining available on request
- Complimentary drinks from the Bar Lounge Car included (excluding Premium Wine List)
- Private car and guide options in selected cities for off-train excursion programme
- Laundry service included



Prices are dynamic based on travel dates. Please proceed to [Book Now](#) or [Contact Us](#) for details.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

2027 departure:

- 29 Mar - 09 Apr, 2027
- 11 Sep - 22 Sep, 2027

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing, and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.)
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package