



Golden Eagle Silk Road Express



CHINA

GOLDEN EAGLE SILK ROAD EXPRESS: IMPERIAL CHINA (TOUR CODE: 16488)

STARTS AND ENDS

Xi'an to
Hong Kong

TRAVEL PERIODS

16 Apr 2027

EXPERIENCE

Luxury
Cultural
Rail

TRAVEL STYLE

Rail Holiday Packages

A 12-day luxury journey through China, blending imperial history, iconic landmarks, scenic rivers, vibrant cities, cuisine, culture and contemporary elegance.

Highlights

- Learn ancient art of bian lian, during a private visit to the Sichuan Opera Theatre
- Visit the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding
- Explore UNESCO-listed Longmen Grottoes, 100,000 Buddhist statues carved into Yí River cliffs
- Enjoy a private cruise along the spectacular Lijiang River

Discover China on an immersive 12-day luxury journey combining ancient heritage and modern splendour. Encounter the Terracotta Army in Xi'an, Longmen Grottoes in Luoyang, and Beijing's Forbidden City and Great Wall. Cruise the Yangtze through the Three Gorges, explore porcelain artistry in Jingdezhen, meet giant pandas in Chengdu, and savour regional cuisine. From Guilin's poetic landscapes to dynamic Shanghai and cosmopolitan Hong Kong, enjoy seamless travel, expert guides, and refined cultural experiences throughout the journey.



INCLUSIONS

- Five-star pre and post tour hotel accommodation
- Private ensuite accommodation on the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express
- 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
- Freshly prepared meals on board
- 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 Xi'an

Upon arrival in Xi'an, you will be met and transferred to the five-star Ritz-Carlton hotel for a one-night stay. Take some time to unwind before joining your fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception and Tang Dynasty themed dinner.

Dinner

Xi'an

Step into the pages of history as you explore Xi'an's ancient city walls, one of the oldest, largest, and best-preserved defensive structures in the world. Visit the Great Mosque, tucked within the winding alleys of the Muslim Quarter, stroll along the ramparts where imperial guards once stood watch, and take in panoramic views of the old town—a captivating blend of ancient tradition and modern life.

After lunch at a local restaurant, the highlight of your day unfolds with a visit to the world-renowned Terracotta Warriors. Discovered by farmers in 1974, this vast subterranean army—over 6,000 intricately detailed life-sized soldiers, horses, and chariots—was created to protect China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, in the afterlife. Wander through the vast excavation pits and marvel at the individuality of each warrior, from the folds of their armour to the expressions on their faces. This extraordinary archaeological site is a powerful testament to the ambition, artistry, and military might of ancient China and is widely regarded as one of the greatest discoveries of the 20th century.

After a day filled with awe and inspiration, return to the comfort of the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express for a grand Welcome Dinner onboard.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Luoyang

Awaken in the heart of China's ancient cradle as the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express arrives into Luoyang, a city with over 4,000 years of history and once the capital of 13 dynasties. Step into a world where time seems to stand still, surrounded by the delicate scent of blooming peonies—Luoyang's proud emblem—and the distant chime of temple bells. Your journey begins at the awe-inspiring Longmen Grottoes, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where more than 100,000 Buddhist statues and 60 stupas are masterfully carved into the limestone cliffs along the Yi River.

Later, continue to the legendary Shaolin Temple, nestled at the foot of Mount Song, the spiritual birthplace of both Zen Buddhism and Kung Fu. Wander through historic courtyards where monks still train, their graceful martial arts performances breathing life into centuries of tradition. Back in Luoyang's charming old town, sample local specialties such as the famous water banquet dumplings, a delicious reflection of the city's Silk Road heritage, before rejoining the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express for a sumptuous dinner onboard.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



LONGMEN GROTTOES IN LOUYANG

Day 4

Beijing

Today, step into history with a visit to the legendary Great Wall at Badaling, one of mankind's greatest architectural triumphs. Wander along this beautifully restored section, taking in the breathtaking vistas of the rugged hills and countryside that stretch to the horizon. For lunch, you'll gather for a special dining experience: a traditional Peking Duck feast at one of Beijing's most celebrated restaurants, offering an authentic taste of the capital's proud culinary traditions.

This afternoon, immerse yourself in the splendour of imperial Beijing with a full-day exploration of its most iconic ancient landmarks: the vast expanse of Tiananmen Square, the timeless majesty of the Forbidden City, and the tranquil beauty of the Summer Palace, with its ornate pavilions and lakeside gardens. Alternatively, choose to uncover the dynamic energy of modern Beijing, visiting architectural masterpieces such as the Olympic Village, the striking CCTV Tower, and the world-class National Museum.

After a day of remarkable sights, conclude with a delicious yet relaxed dinner onboard before arriving at your next destination.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



GREAT WALL OF CHINA

Shanghai

After a leisurely morning and lunch aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express, your Shanghai adventure begins with a visit to the iconic Shanghai Tower—China's tallest skyscraper. Rising to 632 metres, this architectural marvel is home to the J Hotel's celestial lounge, where you'll enjoy an unforgettable afternoon tea on the 120th floor. Sip rare teas and sample exquisite pastries infused with local flavours like lychee and osmanthus, all while gazing out across a breathtaking panorama of cloud-kissed towers and the city's glittering skyline below.

As evening falls, step aboard a luxurious private yacht for an enchanting night cruise along the Huangpu River. Drift past Shanghai's illuminated skyline, where the glowing colonial façades of the Bund meet the dazzling skyscrapers of Pudong, including the futuristic Oriental Pearl Tower. As city lights shimmer on the water, enjoy a bespoke dinner blending Shanghainese flair with international cuisine, perfectly paired with fine wines—an unforgettable finale to your time in this cosmopolitan metropolis.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Jingdezhen

Begin your day in Jingdezhen, China's legendary porcelain capital, with a visit to the Jingdezhen Chinese Ceramic Museum—a world-class showcase of over 2,000 years of ceramic artistry. Explore galleries filled with Song dynasty celadons and Ming vases, while expert guides share the stories of emperors and artisans who helped shape this global legacy.

Continue to the Ancient Kilns & Folk Customs Expo Area, where centuries-old dragon kilns still burn with tradition. Here, amid restored workshops and wood-fired furnaces, you'll enjoy a rare opportunity to work alongside master potters. Under their expert guidance, take part in an immersive hands-on porcelain experience—shaping, carving, and painting your own ceramic creation using time-honoured techniques. This unforgettable encounter offers not just a unique keepsake, but a deeper connection to Jingdezhen's enduring spirit of craftsmanship.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



JINGDEZHEN

Day 7

Yichang

Begin your day in Yichang, the gateway to the majestic Yangtze River, with an exclusive chartered boat trip through the striking Natural Grand Canyon, stretching from the awe-inspiring Three Gorge Dam to Gezhouba. Aboard the luxurious private vessel, you'll glide through this dramatic stretch of the Yangtze with cameras at the ready. Along the way, admire the scale and ambition of the Three Gorges Dam – the world's largest hydroelectric power station – and the intricate Gezhouba Dam, both impressive symbols of China's modern engineering prowess.

As the river unfolds before your eyes, enjoy a leisurely lunch onboard featuring freshly-caught Yangtze fish and Sichuan-inspired delicacies, served with impeccable service and panoramic river views. Whether reclining on deck or taking in the scenery from the comfort of the air-conditioned lounge, this tranquil cruise offers an unforgettable window into the grandeur of the Yangtze.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



THREE GORGES

Day 8

Chengdu

As the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express glides into Chengdu, the vibrant energy of Sichuan's capital embraces everyone. After a sumptuous breakfast onboard, your day of discovery begins at the world-renowned Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding. Here, amidst lush bamboo groves, the sight of these endearing animals sparks instant delight and offers a heartwarming glimpse into one of China's greatest conservation successes.

Later, gather at the Sichuan Opera Theatre, exclusively reserved for the group, where the magical world of traditional opera unfolds before your eyes. In an intimate and atmospheric setting, performers in radiant silk costumes captivate with the ancient art of bian lian—the dramatic, lightning-fast face-changing technique that leaves audiences spellbound. Amidst fiery displays, haunting melodies, and graceful choreography, the spirit of Sichuan's rich artistic heritage is brought vividly to life, making for an unforgettable afternoon of cultural immersion.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 9

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 elegant Observation Car—boasting the largest train window in China—or unwind in the lounge with a fine selection of wines, cocktails, and the gentle melodies of our resident pianist. With every detail meticulously considered, this is the perfect opportunity to revel in the art of slow, sophisticated travel.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 10 Guilin

Guilin, nestled in southern China's Guangxi region, is a serene retreat where natural beauty and cultural heritage meet. Today, embark on a privately chartered cruise along the Lijiang River, travelling from Guilin to the riverside town of Yangshuo. Along the way, peaceful villages, lush countryside, and striking scenery drift past, offering a tranquil window into rural life.

As evening descends upon Yangshuo, board an exclusive fishing boat for a serene sunset voyage, where you'll witness the age-old tradition of cormorant fishing—an atmospheric finale to a day immersed in natural wonder. After rejoining the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express, you'll have your farewell dinner on board, as the train departs for Hong Kong.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 11 Hong Kong

After a peaceful journey aboard the luxurious Golden Eagle Silk Road Express, arrive in Shenzhen and make your way

across the border into Hong Kong—a city where tradition and innovation sit side by side in dazzling harmony. The afternoon is yours to explore at leisure. You might choose to browse the designer boutiques and heritage streets of Central, admire the city's iconic skyline from the Tsim Sha Tsui waterfront, or simply unwind in the comfort of your hotel and reflect on your journey.

This evening, come together for a memorable Farewell Dinner at the hotel—an elegant finale to a once-in-a-lifetime adventure.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 12 Hong Kong

On your final day, enjoy a leisurely morning before your private transfer to the airport for your onward journey. As you depart from Hong Kong, take with you lasting memories of ancient wonders, timeless landscapes, and the elegance of travel aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express—an unforgettable adventure through the heart of China.

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:

- 16 Apr - 27 Apr, 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