



Vladivostok

Premium Trans-Siberian

Tailor-made rail journey - 16 days/15 nights

Our Premium rail journeys are designed to provide you with a comprehensive program which includes stops at the most popular cities and sightseeing at all the major 'must see' sights - all with your own English speaking local guides. Also included are transfers throughout, centrally located hotels, and 2-berth rail compartments. This itinerary is a suggested one only, so if you would like something different we can tailor-make one to suit your needs. For examples of additional stopover options see page 40.

Inclusions

- 9 nights accommodation with breakfast in 3 or 4-star hotels
- 6 nights in 2-berth rail compartment
- Arrival/departure transfers by car throughout with guide assistance
- Business class Sapsan train Moscow-St. Petersburg
- Sightseeing by car and on foot with local **English speaking** guides
- Vladivostok - City tour
- Irkutsk - City tour, Lake Baikal & Wooden Architecture Museum with lunch
- Moscow - City tour with St. Basil's Cathedral, Metro, Kremlin & Armoury Museum
- St. Petersburg - City tour with Church on Spilt Blood, Peter & Paul Fortress, Hermitage Museum, Peterhof Palace & gardens or Catherine's Palace at Pushkin

Your hotels

★★★★☆

- **Vladivostok** - Primorye (*deluxe*)
- **Irkutsk** - Angara (*business room*)
- **Moscow** - Budapest (*junior suite*)
- **St. Petersburg** - Golden Triangle (*superior room*)

★★★★☆

- **Vladivostok** - Lotte
- **Irkutsk** - Courtyard by Marriott
- **Moscow** - Peter 1
- **St. Petersburg** - Petro Palace

Westbound itinerary

Day 1 Vladivostok

Arrive Vladivostok. You will be met and transferred to your hotel. Overnight Vladivostok.

Day 2 Vladivostok

The naval port of Vladivostok boasts the largest harbour in the Far East and was closed to foreigners during the Soviet era. Your city tour this morning covers all the major landmarks and viewing points. Overnight Vladivostok. **B**

Days 3-5 Vladivostok to Irkutsk

Evening transfer with guide assistance to the station for your departure to Irkutsk. The remainder of the day and next 3 nights you will be on board the train. Most long-distance Russian trains have a dining car

with inexpensive meals, or you can purchase food before departure or from vendors at stations where the train makes limited stops. **B**

Day 6 Irkutsk

Late afternoon arrival Irkutsk. You will be met and transferred to your hotel. Overnight Irkutsk.

Day 7 Irkutsk

Full day tour to the lakeside town of Listvyanka and Lake Baikal, including a visit to the museum dedicated to the lake and the Open-air Wooden Architecture Museum at Taltsy. You'll visit the local fish market in Listvyanka, enjoy a delicious lunch, take a cable car ride for panoramic views of the lake and visit St. Nicholas

church, as well as the sacred place of the Buryat people. Overnight Irkutsk. **BL**

Days 8-10 Irkutsk to Moscow

Morning city tour of Irkutsk with your local guide. Founded in 1661, Irkutsk is famous for its wooden houses dating from the 19th century, when it was a gold-mining town and home to the exiled Decembrists. You will see the Polish Roman Catholic Cathedral, Karl Marx Street and monument to Alexander III. This afternoon you will be transferred with guide assistance to the railway station for your onward trip to Moscow. You'll travel through a number of large centres including Novosibirsk, Yekaterinburg and Kazan. Take the time to meet your fellow passengers and see the changing landscape unfold. 3 nights on board. **B**

Day 11 Moscow

Afternoon arrival Moscow. You will be met and transferred to your centrally located hotel. Overnight Moscow.

Day 12 Moscow

Today's sightseeing includes a city tour of Moscow's major landmarks, including entrance to the iconic St. Basil's Cathedral - commissioned by Ivan the Terrible in 1522 to celebrate the capture of the Tatar city of Kazan. You then have a tour of the most spectacular stations of the Moscow Metro system. Overnight Moscow. **B**

Day 13 Moscow to St. Petersburg

After breakfast, visit the Kremlin grounds, where you will enter a cathedral and visit the State Armoury Museum, with its unique collection of crown jewels, costumes, carriages, Fabergé eggs and more. This afternoon, you will be transferred to the railway station to

catch your high-speed Sapsan train to St. Petersburg where you will be met and transferred to your centrally located hotel. Overnight St. Petersburg. **B**

Day 14 St. Petersburg

This morning, your city tour introduces you to the major landmarks of this stunning northern city, including visits to Peter and Paul Fortress and the Church on Spilt Blood. This afternoon, your guide will take you on a private tour of the world famous Hermitage Museum. Its collections, of which only a small part is on permanent display, comprise over three million items. Overnight St. Petersburg. **B**

Day 15 St. Petersburg

After breakfast, visit Peterhof (Petrodvorets) situated on the Gulf of Finland. It was commissioned by Peter the Great as a summer residence to rival Versailles. It is at its best during the summer months when the gardens put on a spectacular display of cascading fountains and golden statues. In winter, we recommend a visit to Catherine's Palace at Pushkin, one of the finest examples of Russian Baroque architecture. It can be overcrowded in summer. Overnight St. Petersburg. **B**

Day 16 St. Petersburg

Tour services end after breakfast with your departure transfer. **B**

Tour prices & departures

Prices shown per person in AUD, based on low season. Applicable 2020.

Hotel		Twn	Sgl
★★★★☆	from	7106	POA
★★★★☆	from	7652	POA