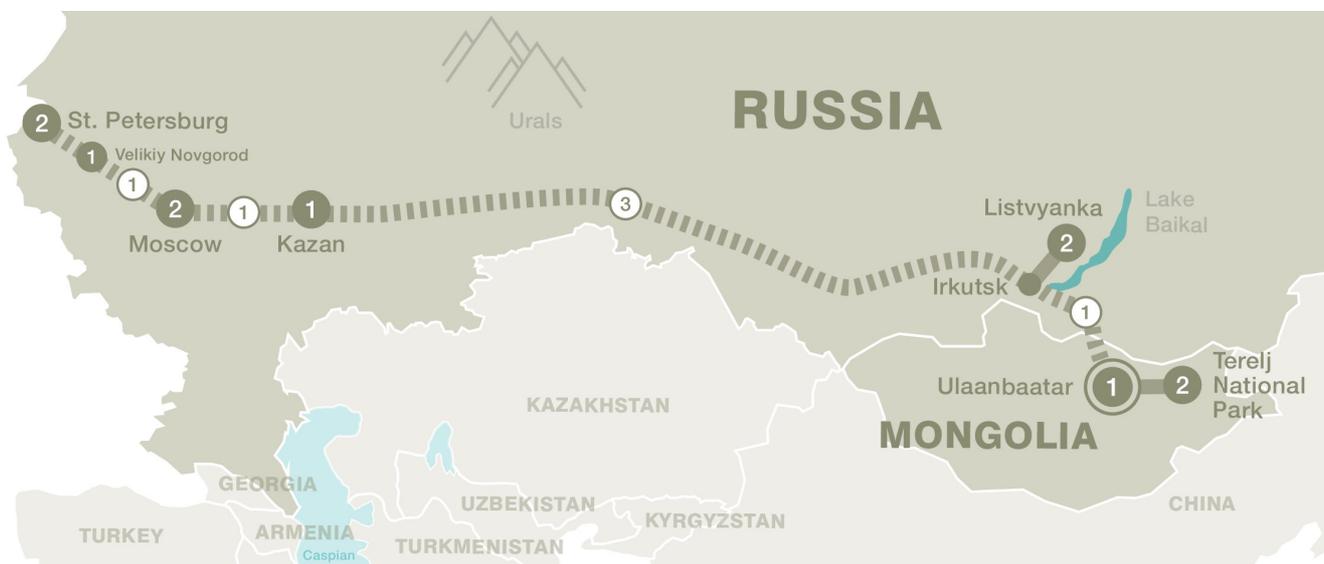




Trans Mongolian Discovery - Departing Ulaanbaatar

Days	Westbound	Countries	Distance	Activity level
18	Ulaanbaatar to St. Petersburg	Mongolia + Russia	6,961 km	●●●○○



Begin in the wilds of Mongolia, and explore the endless rolling steppe before continuing into Russia – first stop Irkutsk, to enjoy the wonders of the world's largest Lake. Still farther on, we find a historic city where Islamic and Orthodox architecture stands side by side. And in the distance, we discover Russia's two grandest cities.

Itinerary

Day 1: Ulaanbaatar

We begin our adventure in Ulaanbaatar and join your Tour Leader and fellow travellers on Day 1 at 3:00pm in your hotel lobby.

Sightseeing - National History museum and Sukhbaatar Square

Day 2: Ulaanbaatar and to Terelj National Park

After breakfast, we visit the Zaisan Memorial from which the entire city is visible, as well as the country's largest remaining monastery, Gandan Khiid, where you can mingle with Buddhist monks.

Later in the day we travel out across the grasslands, through the countryside that was once the home to Genghis Khan and his Golden Horde, to the pristine Terelj National Park.

Sightseeing - Gandan Khiid Monastery and Zaisan Memorial

Meals - Breakfast & Dinner

Day 3: Terelj National Park

This morning we wake up in our cozy gers, set amongst spectacular rock formations and wild rolling hills. Alongside nomadic families and their grazing livestock we can explore nearby valleys or just relax and enjoy the area.

Sightseeing - Excursion to Aryabal Monastery, Turtle Rock and visit a local nomadic family.

Meals - Breakfast & Dinner

Day 4: Ulaanbaatar and across Mongolia

We return to Ulaanbaatar where you have the opportunity to further explore this fascinating city before boarding our overnight train to Siberia.

Sightseeing - See the enormous Chinggis Khaan Statue

Meals - Breakfast

Day 5: Arrive Irkutsk and to Lake Baikal

You find Irkutsk after your train trip north. It's a charming city with a history dating from the fur and tea trading days when it began as an isolated Cossack outpost. Aristocratic exiles from the west brought a touch of elegance with their ornately decorated wooden houses, while Asian traders from Mongolia and China introduced a touch of the Orient.

Your train rolls into Irkutsk Station late afternoon from here you will drive to the nearby lakeside village of Listvyanka, where you will spend the next two nights. This is a perfect spot to pause and relax.

Meals - Dinner

Itinerary (cont.)

Day 6: Lake Baikal

Today we will enjoy our time in Listvyanka on the shores of the world's deepest freshwater lake, Baikal. Here we have time to explore the village with its traditional houses, Limnological Museum and spectacular landscapes.

Sightseeing - Limnological Museum

Meals - Breakfast

Day 7: Irkutsk and aboard the Trans Siberian Railway

Upon our return from Lake Baikal we will embark on a walking tour where you will discover the city's wonderful historic sights – 18th century churches, bright painted shutters and log houses decorated with intricate wooden lacework.

Late this evening we join the Trans Siberian Railway! We head west pausing briefly at stations - Novosibirsk, Omsk and Yekaterinburg among them – riding the rails of the world-famous Trans Siberian Railway en route for Kazan.

Sightseeing - Walking City Tour including Local History Museum

Meals - Breakfast

Day 8: Trans Siberian Railway

Life on board is a destination in itself! Mingle, learn some new phrases, or practice those you have learned on the locals over the mandatory vodka.

Day 9: Trans Siberian Railway

When your train pulls into the many stations along the way hop off, stretch your limbs and restock on supplies from the platform kiosks for the next leg of your journey.

Day 10: Welcome to Kazan

This afternoon we arrive in one of Russia's most progressive cities – the capital of the Tatarstan Republic within Russia, where orthodox and Islamic cultures meet.

Itinerary (cont.)

Day 11: Kazan and on to Moscow

Built on the intersection of two rivers, Kazan has endured a tumultuous history, in 1553 Ivan the Terrible took it from the Golden Horde and the city underwent a process of Russification. Today Tatars, the descendants of the Golden Horde, make up about 43% of the population, maintain their own language as well as culture, and are very proud of their history.

Today you can soak in the history and culture of this wonderful city on a full day tour with a local guide including a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage Listed Kazan Kremlin before we board our overnight train to Moscow.

Sightseeing - City Tour including the Kazan Kremlin

Meals - Breakfast

Day 12: Hello Moscow!

Welcome to Moscow! This city will amaze you with its palaces and public buildings restored to their former glory. The echoing vastness of Red Square, the splendid twirled cupolas of St. Basil's across the cobblestones.

Sightseeing - City Tour including Red Square, St Basil's Cathedral Optional activity: Cultural evening performance

Day 13: Moscow

Today we explore the Kremlin itself, where we go behind its walls to visit the Armoury Chamber with its vast array of treasures.

Sightseeing - Kremlin excursion including the Armoury Chambers, City Exploring and free time

Meals - Breakfast

Day 14: Moscow and to Velikiy Novgorod

Enjoy the day in Moscow exploring the city. Head underground to see the palatial, chandelier-draped metro, people watch on Arbat Street or wander the recently opened Zaryadye Park and take in the breathtaking views of the Kremlin. Returning to the station late in the evening, we board our train to Velikiy Novgorod.

Sightseeing - City Exploring and free time.

Meals - Breakfast

Day 15: Velikiy Novgorod

Welcome to Velikiy Novgorod, one of Russia's most important historical cities. Novgorod lies along the Volkhov River which once featured as the main waterway for medieval trade between the Varangians and the Greeks.

As a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the city boasts a number of great sights to visit and unique architecture. Visit the stone Cathedral of St. Sophia which was built by Vladimir of Novgorod in the 11th century and view its impressive 5 domes at 38 metres high. See Russia's oldest palace, bell tower and clock tower which are located within the Novgorod Kremlin. The entire city acts as a museum, offering plenty of opportunity to delve into Russia's history.

Sightseeing - Kremlin Complex including St Sophia Cathedral & Museum of Wooden Architecture Vitoslavitsy

Itinerary (cont.)

Day 16: St. Petersburg

This morning we depart on the final leg of our epic journey to St Petersburg.

It is the city on the water, the 'Venice of the North', standing resplendent on the delta of the Neva River. Our City Tour will reveal the city's other great secrets including St. Isaac's Cathedral and the enormous Palace Square.

Sightseeing - Half Day Tour including Peter and Paul Cathedral Day, City Exploring and free time

Meals - Breakfast

Days 17: St. Petersburg

Further explore this luxurious city with richly filled palaces and museums, wide boulevards and Venice-like canals, and the greatest art collection of all, at the Hermitage.

Sightseeing - City Tour including Hermitage Museum and Palace Square, City Exploring and free time Optional Activity: Cultural evening performance

Meals - Breakfast

Days 18: St. Petersburg

Our adventure has drawn to a close. Say farewell to your travelling companions and tour leader before departing your hotel this morning.

Meals - Breakfast

Itinerary (cont.)

Journey Summary

Day 1	Arrive Ulaanbaatar	
Day 2	To Terelj National Park	
Day 3	Terelj National Park	
Day 4	Return to Ulaanbaatar and depart to Irkutsk	Afternoon departure
Day 5	Arrive Irkutsk and to Lake Baikal	Afternoon arrival
Day 6	Lake Baikal	
Day 7	Return to Irkutsk and depart to Kazan	Late evening departure
Day 8	Onboard train	
Day 9	Onboard train	
Day 10	Arrive Kazan	Afternoon arrival
Day 11	Kazan and depart to Moscow	Evening departure
Day 12	Arrive Moscow	Morning arrival
Day 13	Moscow	
Day 14	Moscow and depart to Velikiy Novgorod	Late evening departure
Day 15	Velikiy Novgorod	Morning arrival
Day 16	Train to St Petersburg	Morning train
Day 17	St Petersburg	
Day 18	St Petersburg - journey concludes	

What's included



Group size

15 maximum



Meals

11 breakfasts
2 dinners



Transfers

All transfers including to and from the airport.



Accommodation

7 hotel (twin share)
2 Siberian guesthouse (twin share)
2 Mongolian ger (shared)
6 train (shared 4-berth)

Optional single supplement available for hotel stays

– prices available on request.



Sightseeing

Comprehensive schedule of sightseeing with certified Local Guides. You'll have a generous sprinkling of free time to relax or explore on your own.



Expertise

An experienced Tour Leader accompanies the whole journey to keep your adventure on track. Local Guides are native to each destination and as certified professionals will share their immense knowledge with you. 24/7 support is available in the office and on the ground.

Contact Us

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