



FRANCE

VENICE SIMPLON-ORIENT-EXPRESS: PARIS TO ISTANBUL

(TOUR CODE: 13567)

STARTS AND ENDS

Paris to
Istanbul

TRAVEL PERIODS

30 May 25 & 26 Sep 25

EXPERIENCE

Luxury
Rail

TRAVEL STYLE

Rail Journeys

Embark on this luxury train journey and explore an array of romantic cities aboard the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, including Paris, Budapest, Bucharest and Istanbul.

Highlights

- Immerse yourself in Budapest's rich history with expert tour guides, followed by a delectable lunch featuring Hungarian culinary delights
- Explore the mesmerizing Peles Castle, a fairy-tale palace commissioned by Romania's King Carol
- After dinner, stride through to Bar Car '3674' for an evening of cocktails and conviviality
- After a night of revelry, retire to your private cabin, each lovingly restored to full 1920s grandeur

Set out on this timeless voyage and discover a collection of charming cities as you travel aboard the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, encompassing Paris, Budapest, Bucharest, and Istanbul.

During your journey, you'll be treated to a succession of unforgettable moments. Indulge in exquisite regional dishes in the dining car or unwind in your vintage cabin, observing the ever-changing landscapes passing by.

INCLUSIONS

- Three nights accommodation aboard Venice Simplon-Orient-Express
- Overnight hotel accommodation in Bucharest and Budapest
- Complimentary transfer from your Paris accommodation and transfer to the train station for check-in and departure
- Complimentary transfer on arrival into Istanbul – guests will be transferred from the station to accommodation in the city
- A city tour in Bucharest and Budapest, a Danube cruise and a visit to Peles Castle in Romania
- Lunch and dinner in Budapest
- Dinner in Bucharest
- When you are aboard the train, enjoy a sumptuous three-course lunch as the world passes by your window
- A sumptuous four-course dinner – Each night you are aboard the train, feast on a seasonal table d'hôte menu which includes biscuits, cheeseboard and chutney
- All table d'hôte meals include sommelier's selection of wines when served in the restaurant cars
- French breakfast served in your cabin each morning
- Dedicated steward service to attend to your every request as you unwind in style

ITINERARY

Day

1

Depart Paris

Step aboard the gleaming blue-and-gold carriages of the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express at Paris Gare de l'Est Station. Settle into your cabin as the train departs for the first leg of your historic journey to Istanbul.

Dinner is a sumptuous affair, prepared on board by skilled chefs and served in one of the beautifully restored dining cars. As you dine, soothing classic tunes from the resident pianist will delight your senses. Later, you may wish to linger in Bar Car '3674', listening to the resident pianist play the baby grand and chatting to fellow passengers before you retire for the night. When you are ready, retire to your cabin, which has now been transformed into a cosy bedroom. During the night, the train courses through France and Germany.

Dinner

Day

2

Travel through Austria and into Hungary

Wake up to French breakfast, served in your cabin by your steward. Admire the changing views through your window as the train winds its way through Austria and into Hungary. Enjoy a delicious three-course lunch prior to your arrival in Budapest. There, local guides will be waiting to escort you by coach to your hotel.

Prepare for a wonderful cocktail reception and dinner on the river Danube this evening.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day

3

Exploring Budapest

Discover some of the fascinating sights of historic Budapest with tour guides before sitting down to a lunch of Hungarian specialties. Afterwards, enjoy a guided tour of the majestic Hungarian Parliament Building, which was inspired by London's Houses of Parliament.

Re-board the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express and continue your journey. In the evening, linger over a delectable dinner as the train travels towards Romania.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day **4**

A fairy-tale castle awaits

Savour French breakfast in your cabin as the train glides into Romania. A delicious brunch is served in the dining cars as you approach the mountain town of Sinaia. Board a coach for the short journey to Peles Castle, the fairy-tale palace built by Romania's King Carol as his summer retreat. The very first Orient Express passengers visited this beautiful residence in October 1883, at the King's personal invitation. It is recommended to wear comfortable shoes and a sweater for your visit.

Rejoin the train and continue towards Bucharest. On arrival, local guides will escort you to your hotel. Later, enjoy dinner with musical entertainment at a private venue.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day **5**

Final celebrations

Back on board, begin the final leg of your journey to Istanbul. Relax and enjoy the views as you travel south across the mighty River Danube and into Bulgaria. Make your way to one of the dining cars for lunch. During the afternoon, a stop is made at the delightful seaside resort of Varna on the Black Sea coast, where you alight for an aperitif on a private estate.

A final unforgettable dinner is served as the train crosses the ancient Thracian Plain. Celebrate your last night with a glass of something special and enjoy the music of the resident pianist as you chat to fellow guests and new friends.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day **6**

Farewell

French breakfast is served in your cabin as the train travels onwards to Turkey. The train will stop at the border crossing point of Kapikule for customs formalities. Take the opportunity to stroll along to the onboard boutique to browse an exclusive range of elegant gifts and mementos. Today's lunch in the dining cars introduces you to exquisite Turkish flavours.

All too soon, your journey draws to a close as the train pulls into Istanbul. Alight for a complimentary shared transfer to your city centre hotel.

Breakfast, Lunch

ACCOMMODATION

Venice Simplon-Orient-Express

UPGRADE AVAILABLE

Historic Cabins are a luxurious place to rest after a day's adventure on the rails.

Whether it's unwinding as Europe passes your window, or retreating after an evening in the bar car, even the most convivial traveller will require a quiet space to retire. And where better than your own private cabin.

Lay amid plush furnishings, fresh linens, and handcrafted furniture in our magnificently restored 1920s cabins. Order morning coffee to your bed, or a cocktail while you dress for dinner. Our stewards are only ever a short call away.

Take in Europe from the romantic setting it deserves with your own private historic twin cabin. Banquette seating offers the perfect vantage point to watch the landscape by day, while convertible sleeping berths — with soft, luxurious bedding — transform the cabin into an intimate retreat by night. Morning breakfast can even be served to your bed, should you desire.



- Day time sofa setting
- Small table and lamp next to the window
- Wash basin and mirror concealed inside a vanity unit (no ensuite shower)
- Plug sockets (European adaptor required) and razor point
- Complimentary leather amenity kit
- Complimentary bottled water
- Brass luggage rack to pop your overnight bag on
- Velvet hangers to hang your black tie and dress on
- Upper and lower berth bunk beds (night-time configuration)
- Wooden ladder for the upper berth occupant
- Robes and slippers

Room Upgrades

Suites

Each of our suites is inspired by a fusion of the landscape our train travels through and design from the Art Deco period.

Each will immerse guests in diverse European scenery through glorious colours, patterns and textures. Plush fabrics and furnishings channel famed Art Deco designers, such as Dufrene and Lalique.

These reimagined suites were fully restored by expert craftsmen in France and complement the existing Grand Suites and Historic Twins that make up our sumptuous on board experience.

- Double bed or twin beds
- Private marble en-suite bathroom with shower, basin and WC
- 24-hour steward service
- Lounge area by day, as your bed converts to seating area
- Complimentary amenities including a kimono and slippers to take home



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

Grand Suites

Encounter the decadent world of Grand Suites — where handcrafted interiors and free-flowing champagne are simply a way of life — and be swept away in an indulgence known only to the royalty of travel's golden age.

Inside, the Grand Suites' living quarters allow you to dine in private, should you wish. Meanwhile, marbled en-suite bathrooms mean you can refresh in style. For any craving that strikes, a 24-hour butler service is on hand to make your dreams a reality.

- Double queen-sized bed or Twin beds
- Private en-suite bathroom with shower, washbasin and WC
- Plush lounging area with sofa
- 24-hour steward service
- Guaranteed table for two at guest's chosen sitting time for lunch and dinner in preferred dining car; option of private in-suite dining
- Champagne celebration breakfast in your suite and free-flowing champagne throughout
- Caviar on arrival
- Complimentary bathrobes and slippers
- Exclusive turndown gift
- Exclusive car or boat transfers between station and city centre accommodation (or v.v) at the start and end of your train journey



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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

French

LOCAL CURRENCY

EUR

- You can never be overdressed on the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express.

For dinner, we ask for formal evening attire and many guests like to don black tie and wear their most glamorous finery for the occasion. Smart daywear is appropriate during the day. At lunch, for example, a jacket/tie or equivalent is suitable. Jeans are not acceptable at any time.

- If a detailed request is made at the time of booking, special dietary needs such as vegetarian or vegan can be accommodated. If a special request has not been made, the chefs will endeavour to prepare a dish with the ingredients available on board. We do, however, regret that we are unable to provide meals requiring strict religious observance in the preparation.
- Istanbul accommodation is under guests own arrangement and not included in price of package.

Departure dates:

- 30 May 2025
- 26 September 2025

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.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package