



TURKEY & MORE

GOLDEN EAGLE DANUBE EXPRESS: PARIS TO ISTANBUL

(TOUR CODE: 13905)

| STARTS AND ENDS | TRAVEL PERIODS | EXPERIENCE | TRAVEL STYLE |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Paris to Istanbul | 24 May 25 & 11 Sep 25 | Luxury Rail | Rail Journeys |

New for 2025 - Begin an unforgettable journey, travelling through renowned cities across the continent aboard the esteemed Golden Eagle Danube Express. This remarkable adventure takes you from the core of Europe, Paris to the enchanting hub of Istanbul, offering an unmatched experience with distinctive Golden Eagle offerings along the way.

Highlights

- Indulge in the distinctive Golden Eagle encounters woven throughout this exceptional journey. Immerse yourself in meticulously crafted excursions, followed by tranquil afternoons on your exclusive, five-star accommodation on wheels.
- Witness a private saxophone performance amidst the awe-inspiring Postojna Caves
- Embark on breathtaking journey through the magnificent Semmering Pass, celebrated for its 16 viaducts and 15 tunnels
- Immerse yourself in a private classical concert showcasing the renowned Vienna Supreme Orchestra
- Savour a magnificent Farewell Dinner on the enchanting banks of the Bosphorus

An iconic rail odyssey across the continent - new for 2025.

Carefully selected excursions are complemented by leisurely afternoons spent aboard your exclusive, five-star hotel on wheels. In this unmatched environment, indulge in the blend of stunning scenery and personalised, attentive hospitality, transforming every moment into a testament to the pinnacle of opulent travel.



INCLUSIONS

- Private ensuite accommodation on the Golden Eagle Danube Express train
- Five-star pre and post tour accommodation in Paris and Istanbul
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Authentic dining experiences in local restaurants
- Freshly prepared meals on board
- Inclusive alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages from standard bar list
- Cabin attendant service including evening turndown
- Experienced Tour Management team
- Expertly guided off-train excursions
- Luggage portage throughout the journey
- Services of a UK-registered Doctor and medical facilities on board
- All gratuities

ITINERARY

Day 1

Paris, France

Upon arrival in Paris, you will be greeted and transported to a centrally situated five-star hotel (Paris Le Grand or similar) for an overnight stay. Enjoy a welcome reception dinner in the company of your fellow guests.

Dinner



Day 2 Champagne, France

Commencing your extraordinary rail odyssey from Paris, guests will be escorted this morning to Paris Gare de Lyon Station. The journey unfolds with a champagne drinks reception before boarding the elegant Golden Eagle Danube Express. Settle into life onboard the private train as the journey traverses the tranquil French countryside towards the first destination – Champagne.

Famed for producing the world's finest sparkling wines, Champagne's meticulously tended vineyards, draped over undulating hills, form a captivating mosaic of green and gold. Besides the renowned bubbly, the region showcases historic cathedrals and majestic architecture, recounting stories of medieval splendour. Your explorations through this region will uncover a rich blend of flavours, history, and refinement, rendering Champagne an unmatched destination for the senses.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 3 Vienna, Austria

Embark on a magnificent afternoon journey through the awe-inspiring Austrian countryside, crossing the majestic Alps en route to Switzerland. Whether you prefer to relax in the comfort of your cabin, attended to by your dedicated cabin attendant, or opt for the elegant ambiance of the Bar Lounge Car, where you can enjoy the captivating melodies of the resident pianists and savour a selection of expertly crafted cocktails by renowned bar staff – every moment promises a luxurious blend of breathtaking scenery and sophisticated leisure.

As twilight descends, you will gracefully arrive in the imperial city of Vienna, where the evening unfolds into an epitome of refinement. Indulge in a lavish dinner and immerse yourself in the height of cultural splendor with a private classical concert featuring the prestigious Vienna Supreme Orchestra. Tonight, relish in the seamless fusion of fine dining and timeless music, creating an evening that transcends the ordinary and embodies the essence of refined travel.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 4

Vienna to Postojna, Slovenia

Continuing your exploration of Vienna's refined splendours this morning, guests immerse themselves in the captivating allure of Austria's stunning capital. With its opulent palaces, iconic coffee houses, and a cultural fabric interwoven with classical music and captivating opera, Vienna entices visitors with its rich heritage.

After lunch, indulge in an exquisite culinary experience with an exclusive confectionary masterclass led by our esteemed Catering Manager, Krisztian, and the renowned Head Pastry Chef, Rebeka.

Tonight, embark on a journey of refined discovery as guests explore the mesmerizing depths of Postojna Caves. Aboard an underground train, guests delve into a subterranean world of grandeur, traversing a labyrinth of expansive halls adorned with intricate cave formations and inhabited by enigmatic creatures. Immerse yourself in the atmospheric ambiance, accompanied by the soulful melodies of a saxophonist echoing through the cavernous spaces.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 5

Belgrade, Serbia

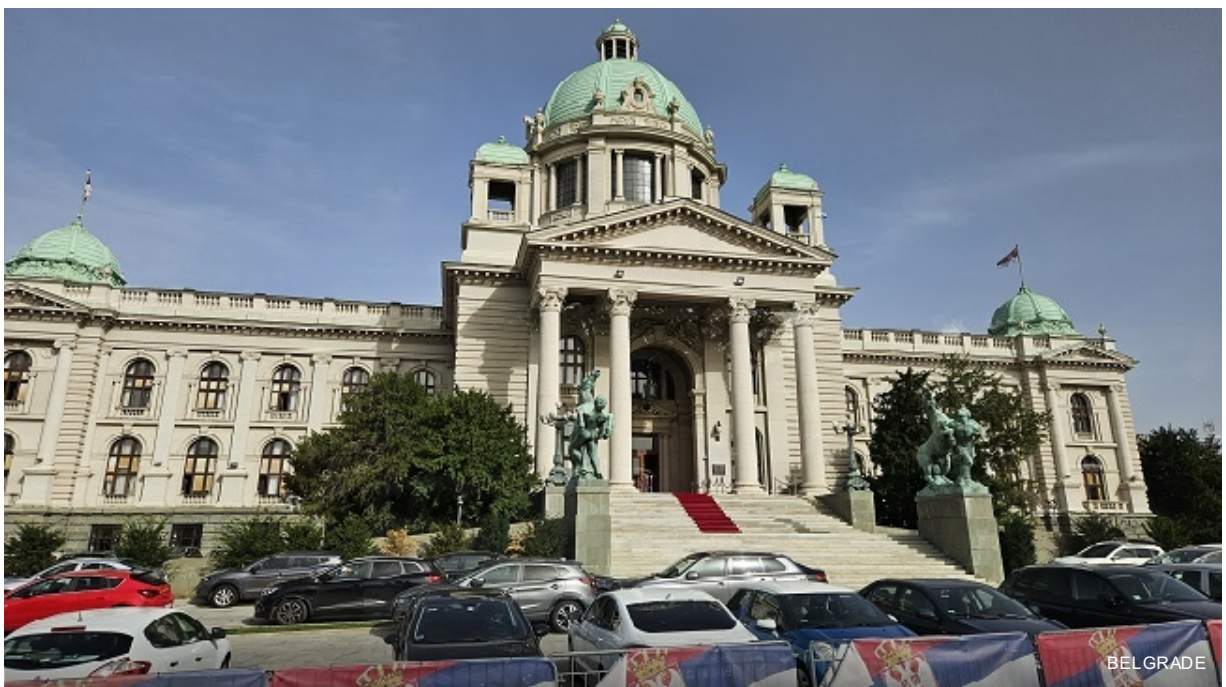
Today, your journey leads you into the hidden gems of Belgrade, starting with an exclusive tour of Tito's renowned blue train, a relic from Yugoslavia's storied past. Delight in a lavish traditional Serbian feast, treating your palate to bold and diverse flavours reflective of the city's vibrant character.

Prepare to embrace Serbian hospitality as you delve into the world of Rakija, Serbia's cherished elixir. At the city's oldest brewery, sample a variety of Rakija blends while immersing yourself in captivating stories that bring Belgrade's spirited history to life.

Before you board the train, take the opportunity to explore Belgrade's lively streets, each corner unveiling a new aspect of its dynamic culture. Uncover the mysteries of this captivating city, where luxury and adventure intersect at every juncture.

Tonight, you are invited to embark on a culinary odyssey with an exquisite Gala Dinner, crafted by esteemed Head Chef, Ramon Batta. Through each meticulously prepared dish, Chef Ramon offers a sensory experience, capturing the essence of the journey through the art of gastronomy. Drawing inspiration from local ingredients and flavours encountered along the way, Chef Ramon transforms each course into a symphony of taste and culture.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Sofia, Bulgaria

Guests can enjoy a morning of relaxation in the Bar Lounge Car as the journey progresses towards Bulgaria. Soak up the sophisticated ambiance while being serenaded by the dulcet tones of the resident pianist, creating a symphony of relaxation. Savour the luxury of time as you recline, observing the world gracefully unfold outside the window.

Sofia, one of the oldest cities in Europe dating back around 7,000 years, lies at the foot of Mount Vitosha, providing a stunning backdrop to the explorations. The city boasts magnificent architecture, showcasing a blend of Western and Central European influences, particularly evident in many of the Orthodox churches. The adventure commences amidst the captivating ruins of the Roman city of Serdica, where echoes of a bygone era whisper tales of glory and conquest. Guests can wander through the enchanting City Garden, home to the prestigious National Theatre Ivan Vazov, and admire the opulent façade of the Presidential Palace and other iconic landmarks that grace Sofia's skyline.

But the excitement doesn't stop there. Guests are encouraged to brace themselves for an exclusive, once-in-a-lifetime experience as they descend into the hallowed Crypt of the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral. In this sacred space, they will be enraptured by the mesmerizing melodies of the "Cosmic Voices," a transcendent vocal masterpiece that captivated hearts at the opening of the Olympic Games in Tokyo. Enchanting and evocative, this private performance by the renowned Vanya Moneva Choir promises to transport guests to realms of sublime beauty and spiritual awakening.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Istanbul, Turkey

Today marks the culmination of your European rail odyssey as you reach the legendary city of Istanbul, straddling both Asia and Europe. The remainder of the day is yours to discover the charms of this captivating city at your own pace before guests gather for a magnificent Farewell Dinner along the enchanting banks of the Bosphorus.

Overnight stay at the Four Seasons Sultanahmet (or similar)

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 8

Istanbul

This morning, after an overnight stay at your centrally located five-star hotel, enjoy your final breakfast on the tour.

Why not extend your stay in Istanbul to explore the Turkish capital at your leisure? Please contact us for hotel options and rates.

Breakfast



ACCOMMODATION

Golden Eagle Danube Express

UPGRADE AVAILABLE

LIFE ABOARD THE GOLDEN EAGLE DANUBE EXPRESS

The Golden Eagle Danube Express is your luxurious hotel-on-wheels. Unpack just the once and settle into your well-appointed and comfortable cabin as you begin this voyage of a lifetime. Your cabin attendant will be on hand to look after all your needs.

In addition to our luxury sleeping cabins, we offer a first class Bar Lounge Car and Restaurant Cars.

DELUXE CABIN

Travel in some of the finest rail accommodation available in Europe.

Private bathrooms feature a shower with constant hot water, washbasin and toilet. There is a heated towel rail, shaver socket and hairdryer. A range of toiletries and a dressing gown are provided. Cabins have individually controlled air-conditioning, lighting with dimmer switches, individual reading lights, power sockets and a safe.

Co-ordinated fabrics complement wood-panelled walls and brass fittings. Two comfortable armchairs provide daytime seating, and a free-standing chair adds flexibility. Cupboards and a full-length wardrobe provide ample storage whilst the large picture window and full-length mirror enhance the spacious feel. A second window will open for fresh air and for that perfect photo opportunity.

During dinner each evening the living room is converted into two comfortable lower beds by your attendant who is also on hand to bring you early morning tea or coffee.

Room Upgrades

Superior Deluxe Cabin

Superior Deluxe cabins, with private en-suite facilities, offer the ultimate in European rail accommodation in terms of space, facilities, and comfort.

With 12 cabins per departure, each cabin offers comfortable daytime seating with a full-length sofa and two additional chairs. The large cabin also benefits from two full-size picture windows, one of which is openable to add to the bright and airy feel of the interior.

Each evening the cabin is transformed into a luxurious bedroom with a UK-standard King Size bed. All cabins have, as standard, a large double wardrobe with excellent storage space, individually controlled air-conditioning, lighting with dimmer switches, individual reading lights, in cabin Wi-Fi and USB ports, power sockets and a safe.



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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- The bar lounge: Unwind in comfortable surroundings and watch the world go by as you get to know your fellow passengers and begin long-lasting friendships. It is here that your Tour Manager will also organise a programme of activities. Passengers will receive printed daily itineraries throughout the tour detailing train arrival and departure timings, latest weather forecasts for the next destination and information on the following day's excursions and activities.
- The Bar Lounge Car and Restaurant Cars will host an entertaining and enlightening range of activities such as language lessons and engaging talks by expert lecturers on local history and culture. In the evening enjoy the sounds of the resident pianist playing in the Bar Lounge Car. Every night the bar stays open until the last person leaves.
- The restaurant car: Enjoy the delights of an on-train breakfast each morning - a wide selection of fruit, cereals, orange juice and cold plates are available from the bountiful buffet.
- For lunch and dinner, you will enjoy fine food, great wines and attentive service in the welcoming atmosphere of the restaurant car. On offer are culinary experiences that reflect the very essence of the countries the train travels through, as well as international cuisine. Vegetarian and other dietary options are also available.
- Meals onboard are a relaxed affair as the restaurant cars can accommodate all guests in a single sitting. Throughout the journey there is an informal dress code, so you can enjoy your culinary experiences in convivial and relaxed surroundings and with an open-seating policy you can dine wherever, and with whomever, you please.

Departure dates:

- 24 May - 31 May, 2025*
- 11 Sep - 18 Sep, 2025
- 23 May - 30 May, 2026 (cost on request)
- 12 Sep - 19 Sep, 2026 (cost on request)

**Please note a hotel change for select departures—guests will now stay at the Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at the Bosphorus*

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