



CHINA

GOLDEN EAGLE SILK ROAD EXPRESS: CHINA & TIBET RAIL DISCOVERY

(TOUR CODE: 14778)

STARTS AND ENDS

Urumqi to
Lhasa

TRAVEL PERIODS

12 Sep 2026

EXPERIENCE

Luxury
Cultural
Rail

TRAVEL STYLE

Rail Holiday Packages

Experience a 13-day adventure through China and Tibet aboard the luxurious Golden Eagle Silk Road Express. Explore iconic cities like Urumqi, Kashgar and Dunhuang, immersing in the rich culture and stunning landscapes of this legendary region.

Highlights

- Enjoy an exclusive evening tour of the UNESCO World Heritage Site – Jiaohe Ancient City
- Visit the Gaotai Folk Houses for a fascinating insight into the ancient residential community in Kashgar
- Experience an immersive night tour of Yotkan Ancient City – the Buddhist Kingdom of Khotan
- Visit the Atlas Silk and Carpet Workshop, to learn the ancient tradition of hand-weaving exquisite silk and carpets
- Learn about the Han and Tang dynasties with a tour of the Miran Ancient City Ruins

Join a remarkable 13-day journey through China and Tibet with this China and Tibet Rail Discovery tour. Travel in unmatched luxury aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express, exploring iconic cities like Urumqi, Kashgar, Turpan, Dunhuang, and Xining. This unique journey combines ancient culture with breathtaking landscapes along the legendary Silk Road.

The trip promises a perfect blend of adventure, elegance, and immersive exploration for discerning travellers seeking an unforgettable, authentic experience.

INCLUSIONS

- Quality pre and post-tour accommodation in Urumqi and Lhasa
- 1-night hotel stay in Conrad, Urumqi
- 7-nights private ensuite accommodation on the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express
- 1-night on board the Qinghai-Tibet Railway
- 3-night hotel stay in St Regis, Lhasa
- Freshly prepared meals on board
- 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
- Experienced Tour Management team
- Services of a UK-registered Doctor and medical facilities on board
- Expertly guided off-train excursions
- Luggage portorage throughout the journey
- All gratuities

ITINERARY

Day **1**

Urumqi

Arrive in the vibrant city of Urumqi, the gateway to Xinjiang Province, where the fusion of ancient cultures meets modern elegance. Upon landing, you'll be greeted by your private driver who will ensure a seamless transfer to the luxurious Conrad Urumqi, where you can unwind at your leisure in preparation for the adventure ahead.

Enjoy an afternoon at leisure – take the opportunity to explore Urumqi's vibrant streets or relax in the opulence of the hotel. You may choose to enjoy the hotel's exceptional amenities, including fine dining, wellness facilities, or even a soothing massage.

This evening, join your fellow guests in a lavish reception at the Conrad Urumqi, where you'll enjoy a fine dining experience and a curated selection of local and international dishes, setting the tone for your exquisite journey.

Dinner



Day **2**

Turpan

Today, venture to the ancient city of Turpan, a region famed for its silk road heritage and lush vineyards. A scenic drive takes you through rugged landscapes to one of China's most captivating regions. Here, enjoy an exclusive evening tour of the Jiaohe Ancient City. As the sun sets over the ruins, feel the mystique of this once-thriving Silk Road city, with private expert commentary bringing history to life.

In the evening, step aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express, where you'll be welcomed into your elegant cabin and treated to a celebratory dinner in the luxurious dining car.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **3**

Turpan

Begin your day exploring the Ancient City of Gaochang, once a flourishing capital of the Silk Road. Roam through the ruins of this ancient kingdom, immersing yourself in the echoes of the past. After a delightful lunch in a local restaurant, you will

visit the renowned Karez Wells, an ingenious ancient irrigation system that still supports the lush vineyards of Turpan. The day concludes with a visit to Jiaohe Post, where tales of ancient travellers unfold.

On board the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express – Dine on a gourmet menu prepared by expert chefs as you travel in style across Xinjiang's enchanting landscapes.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 4

Kashgar

Arriving early in the iconic city of Kashgar, begin your exploration of this bustling Silk Road market town. The day starts with a visit to the Apak Khoja Mausoleum, an ornate tomb steeped in legend and history. A stroll through Kashgar Old Town unveils vibrant streets teeming with life, offering an intimate look at the city's culture.

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before visiting the Gaotai Folk Houses, where traditional Uighur life still thrives. The day ends in relaxation aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Hotan

Spend a leisurely morning aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express, enjoying the stunning desert landscapes. After a sumptuous lunch on board, you will arrive in Hotan, where an exclusive visit to the Atlas Silk and Carpet Workshop awaits. Here, artisans continue the ancient tradition of hand-weaving exquisite silk and carpets, a process passed down through generations.

In the evening, an immersive night tour of Yotkan Ancient City takes you back to the Buddhist Kingdom of Khotan, where you'll explore this archaeological treasure under the stars, creating a memory as timeless as the city itself.

Tonight, you will visit the Hotan Rose Blossom Restaurant, dining under the enchanting desert sky, surrounded by the fragrances of Hotan's famous rose gardens.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Rouqiang

After a relaxing morning on board, you will arrive in Rouqiang, where you can choose between two captivating options.

The Loulan Museum offers a deep dive into the history of the ancient Loulan Kingdom, which flourished in this desert region. Alternatively, visit the Miran Ancient City Ruins, where you'll be transported back to the Han and Tang dynasties, walking in the footsteps of Silk Road traders and explorers.

After a day of discovery, return to the luxury of the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express as you continue your journey through this captivating landscape.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Golmud

This morning, delve into the rich history of the Silk Road with a special lecture at the Hilton Qinghai-Golmud, followed by lunch in the hotel's elegant surroundings. The afternoon offers the choice of visiting the surreal Chaerhan Salt Lake or joining a guided tour through the city, where modern life meets ancient traditions.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Dunhuang

This morning, explore the vast natural beauty of the Sand Dunes by camel, where you will discover Crescent Lake, hidden amongst the towering sand dunes and has sustained life in this region for millennia.

In the small oasis city of Dunhuang you will visit the fascinating Mogao Thousand Buddha Cave Complex. This impressive site contains almost 500 grottoes, carved between 700 and 1,700 years ago. Inside, see an amazing collection of beautiful sculptures and murals depicting the evolution of Buddhist religious art over 1,000 years.

Your day concludes with a Farewell Dinner aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express, celebrating the culmination of an extraordinary journey.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Xining & the Qinghai - Tibet Railway

Enjoy a leisurely morning aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express as it winds through the breathtaking landscapes of China's far west. In the afternoon, enjoy the option to visit either the historic Buddhist Kumbum (Ta'er) Monastery or bustling Shuijingxiang Market before boarding the world-famous Qinghai-Tibet Railway, a high-altitude marvel that will carry you through the stunning Tanggula Mountain Pass.

One of the world's most remarkable railway routes, the Qinghai-Tibet railway spans approximately 1,956 kilometers, extending from Xining, Qinghai's provincial capital, to Lhasa, the capital of the Tibet Autonomous Region.

Alternatively, guests can choose to travel directly to Lhasa, via plane. Guests who choose not to travel on the train will stay overnight in Xining at the Sofitel and then fly the next day (Day 10) to Lhasa and meet the other members of the group.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Tanggula Mountain Pass & Lhasa

Today, you will journey across the Tanggula Mountain Pass, the highest point of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway (16,640 ft above sea level), offering panoramic views of snow-capped peaks and pristine valleys. After lunch, you will arrive in Lhasa, Tibet's mystical capital, where you will check into the opulent St Regis Lhasa. This afternoon is yours to explore at your leisure, soaking in the unique atmosphere of this spiritual city.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Lhasa, nestled in a serene basin surrounded by majestic mountains, aptly translates to the “place of the gods.” At an altitude of approximately 11,975 feet (3,650 metres), it is one of the highest cities on Earth. Steeped in over a thousand years of cultural and spiritual history, Lhasa is the traditional seat of the Dalai Lama and the holiest centre of Tibetan Buddhism.

Today, explore the tranquil Norbulingka, the Dalai Lama’s Summer Palace, built in the 1740s as a retreat from the sweltering summer heat. Meaning ‘jewel garden’ or ‘precious garden,’ this peaceful oasis remains a sanctuary from the bustling city, with its beautifully manicured grounds and serene atmosphere providing a delightful escape.

Afterwards, enjoy some free time to wander through the streets of Lhasa at your leisure, soaking up the vibrant atmosphere and immersing yourself in the rich culture and charm of this picturesque city.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



On your second full day in Lhasa, delve deeper into the spiritual heart of Tibet, beginning with a visit to the revered Jokhang Temple, a sacred 13th-century shrine that stands as the spiritual epicentre for Tibetans. This ancient temple, rich with devotion and history, draws countless pilgrims who journey here from across the region. Here, you will also explore the vibrant Barkhor Market, the oldest market in Lhasa, where the rhythmic footsteps of pilgrims tracing their way around the temple blend with the lively hum of traders offering traditional crafts and wares.

For lunch, savour authentic Tibetan flavours while enjoying the enchanting sounds of traditional folk music, immersing ourselves further in the local culture.

In the afternoon, embark on a tour of the iconic Potala Palace, a monumental 17th-century masterpiece and former seat of the Tibetan Government. Once the winter residence of the Dalai Lama, this awe-inspiring palace dominates the Lhasa skyline with its towering walls and intricate architecture. Set atop the Marpo Ri Hill, rising 130 metres above the valley floor and extending a further 170 metres skyward, the Potala Palace is one of the world’s most magnificent architectural wonders, offering breathtaking views and an extraordinary glimpse into Tibet’s regal and religious past.

You will conclude this unforgettable day with a farewell dinner, a fitting tribute to the incredible experiences shared on this journey.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **13** Lhasa

Your journey concludes with private transfers to Lhasa Airport, as you bid farewell to the enchanting landscapes and ancient cultures that have defined this exclusive adventure.

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

2026 departure:

- 12 Sep - 24 Sep, 2026

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