



CHINA

GOLDEN EAGLE SILK ROAD EXPRESS: ANCIENT CHINA BY PRIVATE TRAIN

(TOUR CODE: 14779)

STARTS AND ENDS

Beijing to
Urumqi

TRAVEL PERIODS

21 Sep 2026

EXPERIENCE

Luxury
Cultural
Rail

TRAVEL STYLE

Rail Holiday Packages

Embark on an unforgettable 12-day journey through ancient China, where history, culture, and beauty converge aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express. Traverse imperial capitals, desert oases and ancient cities, visiting Beijing, Xi'an, Dunhuang, Kashgar and more. Experience the Terracotta Warriors, the Great Wall and the Mogao Caves

Highlights

- Delight in an authentic Tang Dynasty dinner, where the ambiance is enhanced by a captivating performance of traditional music and dance, evoking the grandeur of ancient Xi'an
- Explore the Mogao Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage Site famed for its ancient Buddhist art. This "Cave of a Thousand Buddhas" is a spiritual oasis that has inspired pilgrims and artists for centuries.
- Learn the ancient tradition of hand-weaving exquisite silk and carpets at the Atlas Silk and Carpet Workshop
- Visit the awe-inspiring Terracotta Army – a life-sized army of soldiers, chariots, and horses, buried with China's First Emperor to protect him in the afterlife. This UNESCO site, often hailed as the Eighth Wonder of the World, offers a mesmerising insight into ancient Chinese beliefs and artistry
- Visit the Apak Khoja Tomb, a stunningly adorned mausoleum considered the holiest Muslim site in Xinjiang.

Embark on an extraordinary journey through ancient China aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express. This exclusive voyage takes you through Beijing, Xi'an, Dunhuang, Hotan, Kashgar, and beyond, showcasing imperial capitals, desert oases, and ancient cities. Visit iconic sites such as the Terracotta Warriors, the Great Wall, and the UNESCO-listed Mogao Caves, known for their stunning Buddhist art. Onboard, indulge in luxurious en-suite cabins, world-class dining and impeccable service. Enjoy breathtaking views from the observation car, with landscapes ranging from Xi'an's lush valleys to the Gobi Desert's vast sands. Expert guides bring history to life, offering insights into the legendary figures

and cultures that shaped the Silk Road on this unforgettable, immersive adventure.



INCLUSIONS

- Quality pre and post-tour accommodation in Beijing and Urumqi
- 2-night hotel stay in the Four Seasons Beijing (or similar)
- 8-nights private ensuite accommodation on the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express
- 1-night hotel stay in Urumqi
- 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 Beijing

Upon arrival in Beijing, guests will be warmly welcomed and transferred in luxury to the prestigious Four Seasons Hotel Beijing, where a two-night stay awaits in the epitome of five-star comfort. That evening, join fellow travellers for an exclusive welcome reception and dinner, setting the tone for an exceptional journey through China.

Dinner



Day 2

Beijing

Your adventure begins with a morning visit to the Great Wall at Badaling, one of the most iconic symbols of ancient China. Here, you can walk along a beautifully restored section, soaking in the breathtaking views and imagining the historical figures who once guarded this marvel. In the afternoon, enjoy leisure time to explore Beijing's lively mix of ancient traditions and modern vibrancy.

That evening, gather for a sophisticated dining experience at a celebrated Peking Duck restaurant. This Beijing speciality, cherished for centuries, is expertly prepared and carved at your table, offering a delectable insight into Chinese culinary mastery.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 3

Beijing & Journey aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express

Today, a comprehensive tour of Beijing's historic heart reveals the grandeur of China's ancient dynasties. Explore the Forbidden City, the sprawling imperial palace where emperors ruled for nearly 500 years. Stroll through Tiananmen Square, a place of great historical significance, before discovering the Summer Palace, a serene retreat adorned with beautiful gardens, temples and lakes.

Alternatively, delve into Beijing's modern allure with a tour of contemporary landmarks: marvel at the architectural feats of the Olympic Village and the iconic "Bird's Nest" Stadium, glimpse the striking design of the CCTV Tower and explore the National Museum for a modern-day perspective on China's cultural evolution.

In the evening, board the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express, your luxurious home for the next leg of the journey. Settle into your elegant cabin before enjoying a welcoming dinner in the dining car, as you begin your journey westward in true comfort.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 4

Xi'an

Step back in time as you visit Xi'an's ancient city walls and the Great Mosque, one of the oldest and largest in China. A highlight of your day will be the awe-inspiring Terracotta Warriors—6,000 life-sized figures standing guard over the tomb of China's first emperor, unearthed only 40 years ago. These intricate statues are considered one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of the 20th century.

In the evening, delight in an authentic Tang Dynasty dinner, where the ambiance is enhanced by a captivating performance of traditional music and dance, evoking the grandeur of ancient Xi'an.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 5

Onboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express

Today is yours to relax and enjoy the luxurious amenities of the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express. Take in panoramic views from the Observation Car, which features the largest train window in China, or unwind in the lounge with a fine selection of wines and cocktails. Revel in the experience of luxury rail travel, with every detail carefully designed for your comfort and enjoyment.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6

Dunhuang

Arriving in Dunhuang, explore the Mogao Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage Site famed for its ancient Buddhist art. This "Cave of a Thousand Buddhas" is a spiritual oasis that has inspired pilgrims and artists for centuries, adorned with vibrant murals and statues that date back over a thousand years. Local folk artists serenade guests with music, adding an atmospheric touch to your journey through this sacred complex.

After a delightful lunch, embark on a camel trek along the Silk Road to the enchanting Crescent Lake, an oasis nestled among towering dunes. This tranquil crescent-shaped lake has endured millennia of desert winds and remains a cherished symbol of resilience and beauty.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 7

Golmud

Your day in Golmud includes an enlightening lecture at the Hilton Qinghai-Golmud on the Silk Road's history, highlighting its role as a bridge between East and West. Guests may choose to explore the Chaerhan Salt Lake, a surreal landscape of salt flats and mineral deposits, or enjoy a guided tour through Golmud's vibrant city streets, before re-boarding the train.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 8

Hotan

Enjoy a leisurely morning on board before an exclusive visit to Hotan's Atlas Silk and Carpet Workshop. Here, witness master artisans create intricate silk fabrics and carpets using time-honoured techniques passed down through generations. In the evening, step back in time with a tour of Yotkan Ancient City. Once the heart of the Buddhist Kingdom of Khotan, this ancient city flourished along the Silk Road, its temples and cultural centres revealing Hotan's rich legacy as a nexus of trade and spirituality.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Kashgar

Today, delve into Kashgar, a city that has long been a melting pot of cultures, religions, and architecture. Begin with a visit to the Apak Khoja Tomb, a stunningly adorned mausoleum considered the holiest Muslim site in Xinjiang. Wander through the Old Town, where narrow alleys and traditional homes provide a glimpse into local life, and explore the Gaotai folk houses, an area steeped in history and tradition.

A delightful lunch in a local restaurant introduces guests to the diverse flavours of Uyghur cuisine before returning to the train to continue your journey.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Turpan

Arriving in Turpan, explore the Ancient City of Gaochang, an ancient Silk Road outpost that once served as a vital trading hub. After lunch, marvel at the Karez irrigation system, an engineering marvel that has provided water to this arid region for centuries. Later, visit Jiaohe Ruins, an ancient city carved from rock, whose unique architecture reflects the ingenuity of its former inhabitants.

In the evening, join fellow travellers for a farewell dinner aboard the train as you bid farewell to the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **11** Turpan & Urumqi

After a restful morning on board, join a captivating lecture exploring the legacies of the Silk Road. Following a leisurely lunch on board, disembark in Urumqi, where you'll enjoy an overnight stay. This city is the cosmopolitan capital of Xinjiang, home to numerous ethnic groups and brimming with the vibrant energy of East meets West.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **12** Urumqi

On your final morning, you will be assisted with transfers to Urumqi's international airport for your onward journey. Leaving with memories of China's treasures and the unforgettable sights of the Silk Road, we hope your journey has been as extraordinary as the history of the lands you have traversed.

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:

- 21 Sep - 02 Oct, 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