



CENTRAL ASIA

GOLDEN EAGLE



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CENTRAL ASIA & THE SILK ROAD

Golden Eagle

The Golden Eagle is a fully en-suite private train that carries travellers along the old Silk Road through Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan. Days are spent with expert guides in Khiva, Bukhara and Samarkand; evenings bring fine dining, a piano lounge and your own cabin with a private shower.

WELCOME ABOARD

Golden Eagle

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3

cabin categories, every one en-suite

11.1 m²

Imperial Suite, the largest cabin on board

24 hours

cabin attendant service, day and night

9–22 days

five Silk Road journeys to choose from

5 journeys in this brochure

1. Caspian Odyssey: Yerevan to Almaty · 16 days
2. Jewels of the Silk Road: Baku to Almaty · 9 days
3. Republics of the Silk Road: Tashkent to Almaty · 14 days
4. Republics of the Silk Road: Almaty to Samarkand · 14 days
5. The Grand Silk Road: Tashkent to Beijing · 22 days

ON BOARD

Cabins and suites



MOST SPACIOUS

Imperial Suite

11.1 m² · king-size bed

- Sitting area with dressing table and two large picture windows
- En-suite bathroom with power shower and underfloor heating
- Complimentary stocked minibar and champagne on boarding
- Laundry included, plus private car-and-guide options in many cities
- Room upgrades at the hotels featured in the itinerary

COMFORTABLE

Gold Class

7 m² · double lower bed + upper berth

- Private bathroom with separate shower cubicle and underfloor heating
- Individual air-conditioning, safe and wardrobe
- Screen with DVD/CD player and a large picture window
- Complimentary drinks from the standard bar list

COMPACT

Silver Class

5.5 m² · lower bed + upper berth

- En-suite wet room with shower, washbasin and toilet
- Individual air-conditioning and personal safe
- Large picture window and wardrobe
- Complimentary drinks from the standard bar list

One cabin in each Gold Class carriage has a slightly smaller layout (about 6.3 m²) with the same facilities; it is kept for solo travellers or offered at a reduced rate to couples.



The Bar Lounge Car

The Bar Lounge Car is the social heart of the train: a relaxed place for afternoon tea, a game of cards before dinner or simply watching the steppe and desert roll by. The Tour Manager briefs guests here, and a daily programme sets out train timings, the next day's excursions, the weather and any time-zone changes.

Guest speakers give talks on local history and culture along the way, and in the evening a resident pianist plays the baby grand. The bar stays open until the last guest goes to bed.

Dining on board

Breakfast is a generous buffet of fruit, cereals and cold plates, with hot dishes cooked to order by the chef. Lunch and dinner are served by the restaurant team and draw on the cooking of the countries you pass through, using ingredients sourced locally along the route.

Wines selected for the train are poured with lunch and dinner, along with mineral water, draught beer and soft drinks. There is a single sitting, you may dine wherever and with whomever you like, and the dress code is informal throughout.





JOURNEY 1 OF 5 · GOLDEN EAGLE

Caspian Odyssey: Yerevan to Almaty

16 days 15 nights Yerevan to Almaty

From Armenia's rock-cut monasteries to the foothills of the Tian Shan, by private jet and the Golden Eagle across six countries.

Eight nights in fine hotels in Yerevan, Tbilisi and Baku, linked by private flights, open this journey through Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan. A private plane then carries you across the Caspian to Khiva, where the Golden Eagle takes over for six nights through Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan to Almaty.

Route · Yerevan → Tbilisi → Baku → Khiva → Bukhara → Samarkand → Tashkent → Bishkek → Lake Issyk-Kul → Almaty

- Geghard Monastery, partly carved into the cliffs, and the Temple of Garni
- Lunch with views over Lake Sevan
- Lunch and wine tasting at the Chateau Mukhrani estate near Tbilisi
- A private performance of Georgian polyphonic singing over lunch
- A private visit and dinner at Villa Petrolea, the Nobel brothers' former home in Baku
- The prehistoric rock engravings of Gobustan
- Front-row seats for the light show on Samarkand's illuminated Registan Square
- Nomadic games and eagle hunting on the shores of Lake Issyk-Kul

Day by day

Day 1 Arrive in Yerevan · Night: Yerevan

You are met on arrival and taken to the five-star Alexander Hotel in Yerevan's historic quarter for two nights. Early arrivals can choose an afternoon visit to Etchmiadzin, the mother church of the Armenian Apostolic faith, with a stop at the ruined cathedral of Zvartnots, or a guided walk through central Yerevan. The evening opens with a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 2 Yerevan & Lake Sevan · Night: Yerevan

Climb the Cascade, a monumental stairway of terraces and sculpture with views towards Mount Ararat, then pause at the hilltop Tsitsernakaberd genocide memorial. Lunch is taken beside Lake Sevan, one of the largest high-altitude freshwater lakes in the world. Back in the city there is an optional visit to the Ararat brandy factory, and dinner is a dine-around at restaurants near the hotel.

Day 3	Geghard & Garni, then fly to Tbilisi · Night: Tbilisi Visit Geghard Monastery, whose churches are partly hewn from the cliffs at the head of the Azat Valley, and the colonnaded pagan Temple of Garni above its gorge. You can instead walk through Garni Gorge to see the basalt columns known as the Symphony of Stones. After an Armenian lunch, a private charter flight takes you to Tbilisi for three nights at the Paragraph Freedom Square, with dinner and a folk performance at the hotel.
Day 4	Tbilisi & Chateau Mukhrani · Night: Tbilisi Explore the Old Town, including the clifftop Metekhi Church and Sioni Cathedral, before continuing on foot through its winding lanes. Lunch and a wine tasting follow at the Chateau Mukhrani estate. In the afternoon you can walk on through the Old Town or relax at the hotel, and dinner is a dine-around at local restaurants.
Day 5	Gori, Uplistsikhe & Mtskheta · Night: Tbilisi Choose between Gori, birthplace of Stalin, with his childhood house, museum and private railway carriage (or a local ceramics museum instead), and the ancient cave city of Uplistsikhe with its rock-cut halls and early theatre. Lunch at a rustic restaurant comes with a private performance of Georgian polyphonic singing. Later you visit Mtskheta, Georgia's ancient capital and spiritual heart.
Day 6	Tbilisi to Baku · Night: Baku See the gold filigree treasures of the Janashia State Museum of Georgia, then have lunch at a local restaurant. A private jet carries you to Baku, where you check in for three nights at the Four Seasons on the Caspian waterfront.
Day 7	Baku Old City & Villa Petrolea · Night: Baku Tour the walled Old City by coach and on foot, taking in the Maiden Tower, the Palace of the Shirvanshahs and the ancient Synyk-Kala Minaret. After lunch the afternoon is free for the carpet museum, a national museum or the waterfront. In the evening you enjoy a private visit to Villa Petrolea, the restored home of the Nobel brothers, with champagne, canapés and dinner inside.
Day 8	Gobustan rock art · Night: Baku Visit Gobustan, where thousands of prehistoric engravings of hunting, dancing and ritual cover the rocks near the Caspian shore. Lunch overlooks the sea before you return to Baku for a free afternoon or an optional visit to the Ateshgah Fire Temple. Dinner is at the hotel.
Day 9	Fly to Khiva · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle A private plane takes you across the Caspian to Urgench, the gateway to Khiva. Inside the mud-brick walls of its old town, Ichan-Kala, you explore mosques, madrassas, bazaars and tiled minarets that have barely changed in centuries.
Day 10	Bukhara · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Visit the Ark, the great fortress of the Emirs of Bukhara, and Poi-Kalyan Square with its mosque and towering minaret. Wander the old Trading Domes and gather at Lyabi-Hauz, a pool shaded by mulberry trees and lined with teahouses. Weather permitting, the evening ends with a barbecue on the station platform before the train departs.
Day 11	Samarkand · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Explore Registan Square with its three tiled madrassas, the vast Bibi-Khanum Mosque and the observatory of the astronomer-ruler Ulugh Beg. At dusk you return to the illuminated Registan for a light and sound show from front-row seats.

Day 12	Tashkent · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle A guided tour of Uzbekistan's capital begins in the Old Town at the Khast-Imam Complex, where you see the Uthman Qur'an, regarded as the oldest surviving copy. You then visit the Museum of Applied Arts, set in a richly decorated former diplomat's residence, and Independence Square.
Day 13	Across the border to Bishkek · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Enjoy a leisurely day of scenic rail travel across Uzbekistan and into Kyrgyzstan. In the late afternoon a short tour of Bishkek takes in Ala-Too Square, leafy parks and Soviet-era monuments, including statues of Marx and Engels and the Memorial to the Red Guards.
Day 14	Lake Issyk-Kul · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Spend the day at Lake Issyk-Kul, a vast alpine lake ringed by snow-capped peaks. A privately arranged festival on its shore celebrates nomadic culture with horseback wrestling, hunting with golden eagles, the bone game ordo, music, dance and crafts. Afterwards there is an option to visit the open-air petroglyph museum before dinner on the train.
Day 15	Almaty · Night: Almaty The Golden Eagle arrives in Almaty, where you say goodbye to the train. A city tour visits Panfilov Park and the colourful Zenkov Cathedral, built entirely of wood without nails, before you check in to the Ritz-Carlton for the night.
Day 16	Depart Almaty After breakfast you are transferred to Almaty airport for your onward flight, or you can extend your stay to see more of the city and its mountains.

What is included

- Two nights at the five-star Alexander Hotel, Yerevan (or similar)
- Three nights at the five-star Paragraph Freedom Square, Tbilisi (or similar)
- Three nights at the five-star Four Seasons, Baku (or similar)
- One night at the five-star Ritz-Carlton, Almaty (or similar)
- Private en-suite accommodation on the Golden Eagle
- Private flights from Yerevan to Tbilisi, Tbilisi to Baku and Baku to Urgench as described
- 24-hour cabin attendant service and an experienced tour management team
- Doctor and medical facilities on board
- Arrival and departure transfers and luggage porterage throughout
- All gratuities, on and off the train
- 15 breakfasts, 14 lunches and 15 dinners, on board and in local restaurants
- Generous drinks allowance, including wines with lunch and dinner
- Golden Eagle gala caviar dinner
- Expertly guided excursions, with choice-of-touring options

Live dates, fares and online booking: www.luxurytrainvacations.com/train/golden-eagle/caspian-odyssey/



JOURNEY 2 OF 5 • GOLDEN EAGLE

Jewels of the Silk Road: Baku to Almaty

9 days 8 nights Baku to Almaty

A private flight from the Caspian to Khiva, then the Golden Eagle through Bukhara, Samarkand, Tashkent and the Kyrgyz mountains to Almaty.

The shortest Golden Eagle journey packs in the great Silk Road cities of Khiva, Bukhara and Samarkand, the Uzbek capital Tashkent, Bishkek and a festival of nomadic games at Lake Issyk-Kul. It begins with a night in Baku and a private flight across the Caspian, and ends with a night in Almaty.

Route • Baku → Khiva → Bukhara → Samarkand → Tashkent → Bishkek → Lake Issyk-Kul → Almaty

- Private flight from Baku to Khiva
- Khiva's walled old town of mosques, madrassas and minarets
- A barbecue on the station platform in Bukhara, weather permitting
- Front-row seats for the light show on Samarkand's illuminated Registan Square
- A glimpse of the world's oldest Koran in Tashkent's Old Town
- A festival of nomadic games and eagle hunting at Lake Issyk-Kul
- Panfilov Park and the wooden Zenkov Cathedral in Almaty

Day by day

Day 1 Arrive in Baku • Night: Baku

You are met at Baku airport and taken to your centrally located hotel. In the evening you join fellow travellers for a welcome dinner, served with wines chosen for the journey.

Day 2 Fly to Khiva • Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle

After breakfast at the Four Seasons, a private plane flies you from Baku to Khiva. Once a key Silk Road trading post at the crossroads of routes to Mongolia, Russia, China and Persia, the walled city rises from the desert with a wealth of mosques, madrassas, bazaars and minarets to explore.

Day 3 Bukhara • Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle

Visit the Ark, the fortified residence of the Emirs of Bukhara, and Poi-Kalyan Square with the great Kalyan Mosque and its pillared galleries. Explore the bustling Trading Domes and relax at Lyabi-Hauz, a pool shaded by mulberry trees and teahouses. Weather permitting, a barbecue on the station platform sees you off as the train departs.

Day 4	Samarkand · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Tour Registan Square, the elegant Bibi Khanum Mosque and the Ulugh Beg observatory, one of the earliest Islamic astronomical observatories. After dark you return to the illuminated Registan, where a light show tells the city's story from front-row seats.
Day 5	Tashkent · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Explore Uzbekistan's capital, largely rebuilt after a great earthquake. In the Old Town a small library holds one of Islam's most sacred relics, the world's oldest Koran, and the day continues at the Railway Museum and the Museum of Applied Arts.
Day 6	On board & Bishkek · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle A leisurely day of scenic rail travel crosses the open landscapes of Uzbekistan into Kyrgyzstan. In the late afternoon a short tour of Bishkek visits Ala-Too Square and the city's leafy parks, with Soviet-era statues of Marx and Engels and the Memorial to the Red Guards.
Day 7	Lake Issyk-Kul · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Spend the day at Lake Issyk-Kul, an alpine lake framed by snow-capped peaks. A privately arranged festival on the shore brings horseback wrestling, hunting with golden eagles, the bone game ordo, music, costume and crafts. You may then visit the open-air petroglyph museum before the farewell dinner on board.
Day 8	Almaty · Night: Almaty The train arrives in Almaty, where you leave the Golden Eagle. A city tour includes Panfilov Park and the Zenkov Cathedral, a Russian Orthodox church built entirely of wood, and you spend the night at the Ritz-Carlton or similar.
Day 9	Depart Almaty After breakfast you are transferred to Almaty airport for your onward flight, or you can add extra nights to explore the city and its surroundings.

What is included

- Five-star hotel nights in Baku and Almaty
- Private en-suite accommodation on the Golden Eagle
- Private flight from Baku to Khiva
- 24-hour cabin attendant service and an experienced tour management team
- Doctor and medical facilities on board
- Arrival and departure transfers and luggage portage throughout
- All gratuities, on and off the train
- 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 7 dinners, on board and in local restaurants
- Generous drinks allowance, including wines with lunch and dinner
- Golden Eagle gala caviar dinner
- Expertly guided off-train excursions as described

Live dates, fares and online booking: www.luxurytrainvacations.com/train/golden-eagle/baku-to-almaty/



JOURNEY 3 OF 5 • GOLDEN EAGLE

Republics of the Silk Road: Tashkent to Almaty

14 days 13 nights Tashkent to Almaty

Fourteen days from Tashkent through the Fergana Valley, Bukhara, Khiva, Dushanbe and Samarkand to the lakes and mountains of Kyrgyzstan and Almaty.

This journey takes in five republics of Central Asia: Uzbekistan's Fergana Valley crafts and its great cities of Bukhara, Khiva and Samarkand, the art museum of remote Nukus, Tajikistan's capital Dushanbe, Kyrgyzstan's Bishkek and Lake Issyk-Kul, and finally Almaty. Eleven nights are spent aboard the Golden Eagle, with a hotel night at each end.

Route • Tashkent → Kokand → Bukhara → Nukus → Khiva → Dushanbe → Shahrissabz → Samarkand → Bishkek → Lake Issyk-Kul → Almaty

- A pottery demonstration by a master ceramicist in Rishtan
- Silk weaving with a family workshop in Margilan
- The 'Louvre in the Sands', the Savitsky art museum in Nukus
- The walled city of Khiva and the Ark of Bukhara
- Kohi Navruz Palace in Dushanbe
- Amir Timur's Ak-Saray Palace in Shahrissabz
- Front-row seats for the light show on Samarkand's Registan Square
- Nomadic games and eagle hunting at Lake Issyk-Kul

Day by day

Day 1 **Arrive in Tashkent** • Night: Tashkent

You are met at Tashkent airport and taken to a centrally located five-star hotel. The evening begins with a champagne reception followed by a welcome dinner, with international wines served as at every meal on the tour.

Day 2 **Tashkent** • Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle

Explore Uzbekistan's capital, a mix of Soviet-era avenues and old traditions, starting in the Old Town with its narrow streets and historic religious buildings. Visits to the Railway Museum and the Museum of Applied Arts follow. In the afternoon you board the Golden Eagle and settle in before a welcome dinner on board.

Day 3	Kokand, Rishtan & Margilan · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle In Kokand, an ancient Silk Road trading post, visit the Palace of Khudayar Khan and the Jami Mosque. Continue by coach to Rishtan for a close-up pottery demonstration by a master ceramicist, then to Margilan, where a family of silk makers shows the whole process from silkworm to hand-woven ikat.
Day 4	Bukhara · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Visit the Ark, the fortified home of Bukhara's emirs, and Poi-Kalyan Square with the Kalyan Mosque and its pillar-domed galleries. Explore the Trading Domes and Lyabi-Hauz Square, then travel out of the city to the emir's Palace of the Moon and Stars.
Day 5	Nukus · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Remote Nukus lies in Uzbekistan's north-west, surrounded by the Kara Kum, Kyzyl Kum and Ustyurt deserts. Here you visit the Savitsky State Museum, nicknamed the 'Louvre in the Sands', which holds Central Asia's largest collection of avant-garde art alongside Karakalpak crafts.
Day 6	Khiva · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Travel to Khiva, founded some 2,500 years ago at the crossroads of routes to Mongolia, Russia, China and Persia. Within its ancient walls you discover mosques, madrassas, bazaars and minarets in a city that rises straight out of the desert.
Day 7	Dushanbe · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle In the afternoon visit Tajikistan's capital on the Varzob River, starting at the Museum of National Antiquities. A local expert leads you through the opulent Kohi Navruz Palace, a teahouse turned palace of chandeliered halls. The tour continues to the Ismail Samani monument, Independence Square and Mekhrgon Bazaar.
Day 8	Shahrisabz · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Visit Shahrisabz, believed to be the birthplace of Amir Timur, to see his statue and the ruins of his Ak-Saray Palace. Once covered in colourful mosaic and Qur'anic calligraphy, the palace took more than a quarter of a century to build.
Day 9	Samarkand · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Discover Samarkand, once the capital of Timur's empire, at Registan Square, the beautifully proportioned Bibi Khanum Mosque and the Ulugh Beg observatory. In the evening you return to the illuminated Registan for a light show from front-row seats.
Day 10	Samarkand to Kyrgyzstan · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Spend the morning at the Shah-i-Zinda necropolis, a lane of tiled mausoleums, and the Afrasiab museum with its ancient frescoes from the Palace of Varkhuman. You return to the train for lunch and travel on through Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan towards Kyrgyzstan.
Day 11	Bishkek · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle An afternoon tour of Kyrgyzstan's capital, once a caravan rest stop on the Silk Road, visits Ala-Too Square and the city's parks, with Soviet-era statues of Marx and Engels and the Memorial to the Red Guards.

Day 12 **Lake Issyk-Kul** · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle

Spend an extended day at Lake Issyk-Kul, the vast 'warm lake' framed by snow-capped peaks. A privately arranged festival on its shore celebrates nomadic life with horseback wrestling, hunting with golden eagles, the game of ordo, music, dance and crafts. Afterwards you may visit the open-air petroglyph museum before dinner on the train.

Day 13 **Almaty** · Night: Almaty

A morning tour of Kazakhstan's largest city takes in Panfilov Park, home to the Zenkov Cathedral built entirely of wood without nails, and Independence Square. In the evening the group gathers for a farewell dinner at the hotel.

Day 14 **Depart Almaty**

After breakfast you are transferred to Almaty airport for your onward flight.

What is included

- Five-star pre- and post-tour hotel accommodation where applicable
- Private en-suite accommodation on the Golden Eagle
- 24-hour cabin attendant service and an experienced tour management team
- Doctor and medical facilities on board
- Arrival and departure transfers and luggage portorage throughout
- All gratuities, on and off the train
- 13 breakfasts, 12 lunches and 13 dinners, on board and in local restaurants
- Generous drinks allowance, including wines with lunch and dinner
- Golden Eagle gala caviar dinner
- Expertly guided off-train excursions, with choice-of-touring options

Live dates, fares and online booking: www.luxurytrainvacations.com/train/golden-eagle/tashkent-to-almaty/



JOURNEY 4 OF 5 · GOLDEN EAGLE

Republics of the Silk Road: Almaty to Samarkand

14 days 13 nights Almaty to Samarkand

From Almaty and Lake Issyk-Kul across Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, ending with three unhurried nights in legendary Samarkand.

Starting in leafy Almaty, this journey crosses Kyrgyzstan to Tashkent, the Fergana Valley, Bukhara, Nukus, Khiva, Dushanbe and Shahrissabz aboard the Golden Eagle. It then slows down for three nights in a five-star Samarkand hotel, with time for bazaars, paper-making, plov and the illuminated Registan.

Route · Almaty → Lake Issyk-Kul → Bishkek → Tashkent → Kokand → Bukhara → Nukus → Khiva → Dushanbe → Shahrissabz → Samarkand

- Nomadic games and eagle hunting at Lake Issyk-Kul
- Pottery in Rishtan and silk weaving in Margilan
- A barbecue on the station platform in Bukhara, weather permitting
- The Savitsky art museum in Nukus and the walled city of Khiva
- Kohi Navruz Palace in Dushanbe
- Traditional paper-making at the Meros Paper Mill and plov cooked by a local chef
- The light show on Samarkand's illuminated Registan Square
- Gala farewell dinner in Samarkand

Day by day

Day 1

Arrive in Almaty · Night: Almaty

You are met at Almaty airport and taken to a stylish, central hotel in this leafy city beneath the Tian Shan mountains. In the evening a champagne reception introduces you to fellow travellers and the tour team, followed by a welcome dinner with international wines.

Day 2

Almaty · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle

A guided morning tour explores Almaty's history, with a stroll through Panfilov Park and its war memorial and a visit to the Zenkov Cathedral, built entirely of wood without nails. In the afternoon you board the Golden Eagle, settle into your cabin and gather for a welcome dinner on board.

Day 3	Lake Issyk-Kul · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Spend an extended day at Lake Issyk-Kul in Kyrgyzstan, a vast alpine lake that never freezes. A privately arranged festival on the shore brings horseback wrestling, hunting with golden eagles, the bone game ordo, music, costume and crafts. There is an optional visit to the open-air petroglyph museum before dinner on the train.
Day 4	Bishkek · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle An afternoon tour of Kyrgyzstan's capital visits Ala-Too Square and leafy parks with Soviet-era monuments, including statues of Marx and Engels and the Memorial to the Red Guards. The Golden Eagle then continues across the border into Uzbekistan.
Day 5	Tashkent · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Arrive in Uzbekistan's capital, a city of broad avenues and monumental Soviet-era buildings. The tour begins at the Khast-Imam Complex, a centre of Islamic scholarship, and continues to the Museum of Applied Arts, Independence Square and the Railway Museum.
Day 6	Kokand, Rishtan & Margilan · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle In Kokand visit the Palace of Khudayar Khan and the Jami Mosque, then continue through the Fergana Valley to Rishtan for a live pottery demonstration. In Margilan a family workshop shows the art of silk weaving, from feeding silkworms on mulberry leaves to weaving ikat on traditional looms.
Day 7	Bukhara · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Visit the Ark fortress of Bukhara's emirs and Poi-Kalyan Square with the Kalyan Mosque, then explore the Trading Domes and the shady pool of Lyabi-Hauz. Outside the city you see the emir's Palace of the Moon and Stars. Weather permitting, a barbecue on the station platform ends the day before the train departs.
Day 8	Nukus · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Nukus sits in Uzbekistan's remote north-west, ringed by three deserts. Its Savitsky State Museum, the 'Louvre in the Sands', holds Central Asia's largest collection of avant-garde art alongside Karakalpak crafts.
Day 9	Khiva · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Journey to Khiva, a UNESCO-listed Silk Road city founded more than 2,500 years ago. Explore its imposing walls, mosques, madrassas, bazaars and soaring minarets.
Day 10	Dushanbe · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle In the afternoon arrive in Tajikistan's capital on the Varzob River and visit the Museum of National Antiquities and the opulent Kohi Navruz Palace with a local expert. The tour continues to the Ismoil Somoni Monument, Independence Square and Mekhrgon Bazaar. In the evening the resident pianist plays as the train crosses back into Uzbekistan.
Day 11	Shahrisabz & Samarkand · Night: Samarkand Visit Shahrisabz, believed to be Amir Timur's birthplace, to see his statue and the UNESCO-listed Ak-Saray Palace. In the late afternoon you arrive in Samarkand and say goodbye to the Golden Eagle, visiting the azure-domed Gur-e Amir, Timur's mausoleum, before checking in to a five-star hotel. Dinner is a dine-around at the hotel.

Day 12 **Samarkand** · Night: Samarkand

Explore Registan Square, the Bibi Khanum Mosque and the colourful Siab Bazaar. At the Meros Paper Mill you watch and try the centuries-old craft of paper-making, and a local chef prepares plov, Uzbekistan's signature dish. In the evening you return to the illuminated Registan for a light show from front-row seats.

Day 13 **Samarkand** · Night: Samarkand

Spend the morning at the Shah-i-Zinda necropolis, with its brilliant tilework, and the Ulugh Beg Observatory. At Afrasiab a museum displays finds from the ancient city, including frescoes from the Palace of Varkhuman. The evening brings a gala farewell dinner.

Day 14 **Depart Samarkand**

After breakfast you are transferred to the airport for your onward flight.

What is included

- Five-star pre- and post-tour hotel accommodation where applicable
- Private en-suite accommodation on the Golden Eagle
- 24-hour cabin attendant service and an experienced tour management team
- Doctor and medical facilities on board
- Arrival and departure transfers and luggage portage throughout
- All gratuities, on and off the train
- 13 breakfasts, 12 lunches and 13 dinners, on board and in local restaurants
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Live dates, fares and online booking: www.luxurytrainvacations.com/train/golden-eagle/almaty-to-samarkand/



JOURNEY 5 OF 5 • GOLDEN EAGLE

The Grand Silk Road: Tashkent to Beijing

22 days 21 nights Tashkent to Beijing

Twenty-two days along the whole Silk Road, from Tashkent to Beijing aboard two private trains: the Golden Eagle and the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express.

Eleven nights on the Golden Eagle cover Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, from the Fergana Valley to Lake Issyk-Kul. A private flight then takes you to Kashgar, where the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express carries you for six nights across western China, via Hotan, Golmud, Dunhuang and Xi'an, to two final nights in Beijing.

Route • Tashkent → Kokand → Bukhara → Nukus → Khiva → Dushanbe → Shahrissabz → Samarkand → Bishkek → Lake Issyk-Kul → Almaty → Kashgar → Hotan → Golmud → Dunhuang → Xi'an → Beijing

- Pottery in Rishtan and silk weaving in Margilan
- The walled city of Khiva and the Ark of Bukhara
- Front-row seats for the light show on Samarkand's Registan Square
- Nomadic games and eagle hunting at Lake Issyk-Kul
- The Apak Khoja Tomb and Old Town of Kashgar
- The Mogao Caves and a camel ride to Crescent Lake in Dunhuang
- The Terracotta Warriors and a Tang Dynasty dinner show in Xi'an
- The Great Wall at Badaling and a Peking Duck dinner in Beijing

Day by day

Day 1 Arrive in Tashkent • Night: Tashkent

You are met at Tashkent airport and taken to a central five-star hotel. In the evening a champagne reception and welcome dinner introduce you to your fellow travellers.

Day 2 Tashkent • Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle

Explore Uzbekistan's capital, beginning in the Old Town, where you are privileged to see the world's oldest Koran. Visits to the Railway Museum and Museum of Applied Arts follow. In the afternoon you board the Golden Eagle for a welcome dinner on board.

Day 3 Kokand, Rishtan & Margilan • Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle

Visit the Palace of Khudayar Khan and the Jami Mosque in Kokand, then travel by coach to Rishtan to watch a master ceramicist at work. In Margilan a family of silk makers shows every stage of the craft, from silkworms to ikat woven on traditional looms.

Day 4	Bukhara · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Begin at the emir's Palace of the Moon and Stars outside the city, then explore the Ark fortress, Poi-Kalyan Square and the Kalyan Mosque. Wander the Trading Domes and Lyabi-Hauz Square, and, weather permitting, enjoy a barbecue on the station platform before the train departs.
Day 5	Nukus · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle In the desert city of Nukus, visit the Savitsky State Museum, the 'Louvre in the Sands', with its remarkable collection of avant-garde art and Karakalpak crafts.
Day 6	Khiva · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Travel to Khiva, a UNESCO-listed Silk Road city founded about 2,500 years ago. Within its ancient walls you discover mosques, madrassas, bazaars and minarets.
Day 7	Dushanbe · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle In Tajikistan's capital visit the Museum of National Antiquities and the opulent Kohi Navruz Palace with a local expert guide. The afternoon continues to the Ismail Samani monument, Independence Square and Mekhrgon Bazaar.
Day 8	Shahrisabz · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Visit Shahrisabz, believed to be Amir Timur's birthplace, to see his statue and the remains of his Ak-Saray Palace, once covered in colourful mosaic and Qur'anic calligraphy.
Day 9	Samarkand · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Explore Registan Square, the Bibi Khanum Mosque and the Ulugh Beg observatory. As night falls you return to the illuminated Registan for a light show from front-row seats.
Day 10	Samarkand to Kyrgyzstan · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Spend the morning at the Shah-i-Zinda necropolis and the Afrasiab museum with its ancient palace frescoes. You return to the train for lunch and travel on through Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan towards Kyrgyzstan.
Day 11	Bishkek · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle An afternoon tour of Bishkek, once a caravan rest stop, visits Ala-Too Square and the city's parks with their Soviet-era statues and the Memorial to the Red Guards.
Day 12	Lake Issyk-Kul · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Spend an extended day at Lake Issyk-Kul, framed by snow-capped peaks. A privately arranged festival celebrates nomadic culture with horseback wrestling, hunting with golden eagles, the game of ordo, music and crafts, with an optional visit to the open-air petroglyph museum before dinner on board.
Day 13	Almaty & fly to Kashgar · Night: Kashgar A morning tour of Almaty visits Panfilov Park, with the wooden Zenkov Cathedral, and Independence Square. In the afternoon a private flight takes you to Kashgar for a night in a central five-star hotel.
Day 14	Kashgar · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express Explore Kashgar, long a meeting point of cultures, beginning at the ornate Apak Khoja Tomb, the holiest Muslim site in Xinjiang. Wander the Old Town and the historic Gaotai folk houses. In the afternoon you board the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express for a welcome dinner.

Day 15	Hotan · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express After a relaxed morning on board, arrive in Hotan and visit an Atlas silk and carpet workshop, where everything is handmade and coloured with natural plant dyes. In the evening you explore the ancient city of Yotkan by night, once the heart of a Buddhist kingdom.
Day 16	Golmud · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express A lecture on the history of the Silk Road is followed by lunch at the Hilton Qinghai-Golmud. In the afternoon choose between the surreal Chaerhan Salt Lake and a guided tour of the city.
Day 17	Dunhuang · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express Explore the Mogao Caves, the 'Caves of a Thousand Buddhas', where hundreds of grottoes hold Buddhist statues and murals, with a performance by local folk artists. After lunch a camel trek leads across the dunes to Crescent Lake, an oasis that has survived the desert sands for millennia.
Day 18	On board the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express A day to relax on board as the train crosses China. Watch the scenery from the Observation Car, with the largest train window in China, or unwind in the lounge with fine wines and cocktails.
Day 19	Xi'an · Night: Aboard the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express Visit Xi'an's ancient city walls and the Great Mosque, one of the oldest and largest in China. The highlight is the Terracotta Warriors, thousands of life-sized figures guarding the tomb of China's first emperor. The evening brings Tang Dynasty cuisine, music and dance.
Day 20	Beijing · Night: Beijing Arrive in the capital for a tour of the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square and the Summer Palace, or choose modern Beijing instead, with the Olympic Village, the Bird's Nest Stadium, the CCTV Tower and the National Museum. Afterwards you transfer to the Four Seasons Hotel Beijing for two nights.
Day 21	The Great Wall · Night: Beijing In the morning walk a restored section of the Great Wall at Badaling, then enjoy a free afternoon in the city. In the evening the group dines at a celebrated Peking Duck restaurant, where the duck is carved at the table.
Day 22	Depart Beijing On the final morning you are transferred to Beijing's international airport for your onward journey.

What is included

- One hotel night at the JW Marriott Tashkent (or similar)
- Eleven nights on board the Golden Eagle
- One hotel night in a central five-star hotel in Kashgar
- Six nights on board the Golden Eagle Silk Road Express
- Two hotel nights at the Four Seasons Beijing (or similar)
- Private flight from Almaty to Kashgar
- Cabin attendant service including evening turndown, and an experienced tour management team
- Doctor and medical facilities on board
- Arrival and departure transfers and luggage portage throughout
- All gratuities, on and off the train
- 21 breakfasts, 21 lunches and 21 dinners, on board and in local restaurants
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks from the standard bar list
- Expertly guided excursions with expert tour managers and local guides

Live dates, fares and online booking: www.luxurytrainvacations.com/train/golden-eagle/tashkent-to-beijing/





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Reserve your cabin on the Golden Eagle

Departure dates, cabin availability and fares change through the season, so we keep them live on our website, where you can book online. Our rail specialists can also hold cabins, arrange hotels and connections, and answer any question.

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Itineraries are set by the train and may change; the journey page shows the current details. Brochure produced October 2026.