THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD
BY PRIVATE TRAIN

Unforgettable Journeys Through Central Asia
Kazakhstan · Kyrgyzstan · Tajikistan · Turkmenistan · Uzbekistan
THE LEGENDARY SILK ROAD: FROM ALMATY TO ASHGABAT

The 14-day journey through Kazakhstan (KAZ), Uzbekistan (UZB) and Turkmenistan (TKM) has been part of the Silk Road route since ancient times. From stunning architecture to wondrous landscapes and everything in between, this unforgettable journey is your gateway to adventure.

A SAMPLING OF YOUR EXPERIENCE

KEY ATTRACTIONS

→ Travel in style on board your private train with classic Silk Road sleeper cars
→ Explore 3 remote, unique countries: Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan
→ Discover historic hidden gems, medieval and ancient sites—including 7 UNESCO World Heritage Sites
→ Meet real locals and learn about their culture, heritage and history
→ Enjoy delicious cuisine, regional food and drink with local families on board and along your route

ITINERARY

DAY 1. **KAZ** Almaty
DAY 2. **KAZ** Almaty
DAY 3. **KAZ** Turkistan
DAY 4. **UZB** Tashkent
DAY 5. **UZB** Shahrisabz
DAY 6. **UZB** Samarkand
DAY 7. **UZB** Samarkand
DAY 8. **UZB** Samarkand
DAY 9. **UZB** Khiva
DAY 10. **UZB** Bukhara
DAY 11. **UZB** Bukhara
DAY 12. **TKM** Merv
DAY 13. **TKM** Ashgabat
DAY 14. **TKM** Ashgabat

→ 7 NIGHTS on board
→ 6 NIGHTS in hotels
→ DAYS INCLUDE breakfast, lunch and dinner, excluding the first and last

Reverse journey also available

MEDIEVAL ARCHITECTURE
Mausoleum of Khawaja Ahmed Yasawi (UNESCO) In a city once ruled by ancient kings, Turkistan, visit the pilgrimage site of the unfinished medieval mausoleum for one of the Silk Road’s most famous poets.

CENTERS OF SCIENTIFIC LEARNING
Ulugh Beg Observatory (UNESCO) Built by 15-century Persian astronomer Ulugh Beg, this observatory in Samarkand has been home to many scientific discoveries.

RUINS OF ANCIENT CITIES
Itchan Kala Historic Center (UNESCO) The Silk Road is full of opportunities to visit archaeological sites. Itchan Kala is tucked away in the modern-day city of Khiva.

TRADITIONAL SILK ROAD CRAFTS
Traditional craftsmanship is alive and well on the Silk Road. In Samarkand, observe demonstrations of traditional silk carpet and paper making.
HEART OF THE SILK ROAD: ROUND-TRIP FROM TASHKENT

Uzbekistan (UZB) lies in the heart of the ancient Silk Road and is filled with some of the world’s most ancient treasures. The sights and sounds of the past come alive on this unique 10-day adventure that begins and ends in the Uzbek capital, Tashkent. Let this ultimate journey through Uzbekistan wow and inspire you.

A PREVIEW OF YOUR JOURNEY

RUINS OF THE MONGOLIAN EMPIRE
Shahrisabz Historic Center (UNESCO)
Known as the birthplace of the medieval Mongol ruler Timur, Shahrisabz is one of the most iconic and visited locales on the Silk Road.

ICONIC PERSIAN ARCHITECTURE
Samanid Mausoleum
Hidden in a public park near the Bukhara historic center, this Persian mausoleum is one of the most revered architectural works in Central Asia.

KEY ATTRACTIONS

→ Enjoy private train travel, and explore Uzbekistan’s Silk Road easily and safely
→ Focus on one country, Uzbekistan, and delve deep into its character... and its secrets
→ Visit historic treasures and architectural wonders—including 4 UNESCO World Heritage Sites
→ Get an inside look into Uzbek daily life and the heritage and history of a nation
→ Enjoy delicious Uzbek cuisine with local families on board your private train and along your route—including wine tasting!

ITINERARY

DAY 1. UZB Tashkent
DAY 2. UZB Tashkent
DAY 3. UZB Shahrisabz
DAY 4. UZB Bukhara
DAY 5. UZB Bukhara
DAY 6. UZB Khiva
DAY 7. UZB Samarkand
DAY 8. UZB Samarkand
DAY 9. UZB Samarkand
DAY 10. UZB Tashkent

→ 3 NIGHTS on board
→ 5 NIGHTS in hotels
→ DAYS INCLUDE breakfast, lunch and dinner (BLD), excluding the first and last
KEY ATTRACTIONS

› Stay ahead of crowds, and travel in ease and comfort on your private train, your home on rails

› Uncover the mysteries, the histories, and the heritage of 4 fantastic Central Asian countries

› Experience a wealth of wonders, both natural and human-made, including 4 UNESCO World Heritage Sites

› Discover new cultures and mingle with the locals while learning their history and heritage

› Taste the adventure! Enjoy local and international food and drink on board your private train and at select spots on your route

THE GREAT SILK ROAD ADVENTURE: FROM ALMATY TO TASHKENT

This epic, 16-day journey takes you through four ancient Silk Road countries, Kazakhstan (KAZ), Kyrgyzstan (KGZ), Uzbekistan (UZB) and Tajikistan (TKJ). Covering thousands of miles, this adventure of a lifetime leaves no stone unturned. Encounter the legacy of the Silk Road on this remarkable trip through the ancient world.

A SNAPSHOT OF WHAT’S TO COME

PALACES OF PERSIAN KINGS
Timur's White Palace (UNESCO) The remains of Mongol ruler Timur’s empire give much of the Silk Road its unique character. The ruins of his summer palace are a monument to his power.

IMMENSE CENTRAL ASIAN MARKETS
It’s not certain that Panchshanbe Bazaar is the largest market in Central Asia, but it certainly feels like it when you’re there.

DIVERSE NATURAL BEAUTY
Kyrgyzstan doesn’t lack when it comes to idyllic scenery. The Ala Archa National Park is home to diverse flora and fauna.

SILK ROAD TRADITIONS UP CLOSE
Traditional bread baking demonstration Bread has been a part of human culture since the dawn of civilization. In Kokand, Uzbekistan, you can witness the art of bread making passed down through generations.
BENEFITS OF TRAVELING WITH LERNIDEE

For decades, Lernidee has guided adventurous travelers along the Silk Road, but we provide more than just once-in-a-lifetime journeys.

→ **CHOOSE** from a wide selection of train compartments
→ **DON’T WAIT** on long lines or travel by bumpy buses
→ **ENJOY** our detailed service, including delicious local cuisine
→ **RELAX** and let our experts guide you on the tour of a lifetime
→ **CUSTOMIZE YOUR EXPERIENCE** with us, and feel right at home on the adventure of your dreams!

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**FIRST-CLASS SERVICE**

→ 5 train compartment categories to choose from
→ No long waits or exhausting bus tours
→ Alternating overnights on private trains and in hotels
→ Luggage storage on board trains
→ Shuttle service between hotel and airports on first and last days
→ Traditional welcomes in Bukhara and Samarkand train stations
→ Porter service at train stations
→ Entrance fees and sights included according to itinerary

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**EXPERT STAFF**

→ Threefold tour guide system
→ Multilingual Lernidee tour director
→ Experienced local guides for a maximum of 26 guests per group
→ Informative and entertaining talks about lands, culture and history
→ Doctor on board, available for the entire train journey
→ Friendly and attentive train crew on call to meet and exceed your needs
→ Polite and professional restaurant and bar staff, serving your meals with a smile

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**FRESH FLAVORS**

→ Daily meals according to route description
→ Delights of regional and international cuisine on board
→ Tastings of regional wine and vodka
→ Family meals with Uzbek and Turkmen families

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**EVERYTHING ELSE**

→ Visa support as needed
→ Log book with information about the journey
→ Whatever else it takes to make your journey enjoyable, pleasant and unforgettable!
SILK ROAD SIGHTS: A SNEAK PEEK

The stunning sights pictured below are what make your Silk Road journey unforgettable. Enjoy this preview of your once-in-a-lifetime adventure, but remember—nothing compares to actually being there.

TURKISTAN, KAZ
This historic city is widely known as a Muslim spiritual center. The mausoleum of revered poet Khawaja Ahmed Yasawi is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

ALMATY, KAZ
Kazakhstan’s largest city, with its mix of Russian and modern architecture, sits at the foot of the Kok-Tobe mountain and is the perfect prologue to a Silk Road journey.

TASHKENT, UZB
Uzbekistan’s capital is the most populated city in Central Asia and is home to many medieval and modern highlights, including the Kukeldash Madrasa and the Navoi Theater.

TURKISTAN, KAZ
This historic city is widely known as a Muslim spiritual center. The mausoleum of revered poet Khawaja Ahmed Yasawi is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
ASHGABAT, TKM Turkmenistan’s capital is a modern city surrounded by gorgeous desert and mountain scenery. The nearby ancient Persian fortress of Nisa is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

BUKHARA, UZB Bukhara’s historic center is filled with so many stunning architectural monuments that today it is known as the City of Museums, and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

MERY, TKM This UNESCO World Heritage Site is no longer a populated city, and its most ancient part—Erk Gala, a Persian fort—is more than 2,000 years old.
LAKE ISSYK-KUL, KGZ One of the world’s most unique bodies of water, Lake Issyk-Kul is one of Kyrgyzstan’s beloved jewels. It is both a popular vacation spot and a UNESCO biosphere reserve.

KHIVA, UZB A truly biblical city, Khiva possibly dates back to the time of Noah from the Old Testament. Its historic center, Itchan Kala, is Uzbekistan’s first UNESCO World Heritage Site.

SAMARKAND, UZB One of Central Asia’s oldest cities, its many historic monuments, like the magnificent Registan Square, earned it a spot on the UNESCO World Heritage List.
YOUR SILK ROAD HOTELS

Every Silk Road adventure includes overnights on your private train and in well-appointed hotels along your route. The hotels below are normally included. Similar quality hotels rarely may replace those listed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hotel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Almaty</td>
<td>Rahat Palace Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tashkent</td>
<td>Grand Mir Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samarkand</td>
<td>Registan Plaza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bukhara</td>
<td>Asia Bukhara</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashgabat</td>
<td>Ak Altyn Hotel</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

KOKAND, UZB  As the former capital of the Kokand Khanate, the last Uzbek kingdom, Kokand is home to many architectural wonders, including the eighteenth-century Khan’s Palace.

SHAHRSABZ, UZB  Known as the birthplace of Mongol ruler Timur, the city’s historic center became a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its well-preserved monuments, like Timur’s White Palace.

KHUJAND, TJK  More than 2,000 years old, Khujand has long been a Silk Road city. The Historical Museum of Sughd and the immense Panchshanbe Bazaar are illustrations of its rich heritage.
The **Orient Silk Road Express** private train is your ticket to an unforgettable journey. Travel in style and comfort on what will be your home away from home in Central Asia. Come on board and enjoy a wide selection of compartments, stellar service, amazing food, and the most comfortable way to experience the legendary Silk Road!

### STANDARD CATEGORIES

Habibi compartments feature 2 shared bathrooms with sink and toilet per car, and 4 beds sized 27.5 x 74.8 in/67 x 184 cm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>HABIBI</strong></th>
<th>2 upper and 2 lower beds</th>
<th>9 compartments per car</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sink and Toilet</td>
<td>Conductor’s cabin</td>
<td>Table</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunk Beds</td>
<td>Sink and Toilet</td>
<td>Window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry/Exit</td>
<td>Stove/Hot Water</td>
<td>Cold Drinking Water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compartment Door</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### COMFORT CATEGORIES

Ali Baba and Aladdin compartments feature 2 shared bathrooms with sink and toilet per car, and 2 beds sized 27.5 x 74.8 in/67 x 184 cm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ALI BABA</strong></th>
<th>2 lower beds</th>
<th>9 compartments per car</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sink and Toilet</td>
<td>Conductor’s cabin</td>
<td>Table</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beds</td>
<td>Sink and Toilet</td>
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<td>Compartment Door</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ALADDIN</strong></th>
<th>2 lower beds</th>
<th>1 bathrobe per compartment</th>
<th>8 compartments per car</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sink and Toilet</td>
<td>Sink</td>
<td>Table</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beds</td>
<td>Shower</td>
<td>Sink</td>
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THE ORIENT SILK ROAD EXPRESS
CLASSIC TRAIN TRAVEL AT ITS BEST

1 WIDE SELECTION OF COMPARTMENTS

CHOOSE between 5 compartment categories, ranging from standard (Habibi) to premium (Kalif).

2 WORLD-CLASS SERVICE

ENJOY best-in-class service from friendly and knowledgeable staff, always ready to take care of your needs.

3 DELICACIES OF THE SILK ROAD

TASTE a new world of flavor, served in cozy restaurant cars, offering nightly bar service.

PREMIUM CATEGORIES

All premium compartments feature larger beds, private bathrooms with sink and toilet, larger tables and more storage space.

SULTAN

- 1 upper bed (31.6 x 68.5 in/80 x 174 cm)
- 1 larger, lower bed (44.3 x 72.4 in/110 x 184 cm)
- Private bathroom with integrated shower
- Large table
- Small closet
- 6 compartments per car

KALIF

- 1 upper bed (31.6 x 68.5 in/80 x 174 cm)
- 1 larger, lower bed (44.3 x 72.4 in/110 x 184 cm)
- Private bathroom with enclosed shower
- Large table
- Closet
- Safe
- 4 compartments per car

All train cars feature one compartment category. All compartments feature a window, a table and storage. OSRE has air-conditioning when not stopped.
FURTHER TRAIN JOURNEYS

∙ Tsar’s Gold on the Legendary Trans-Siberian Railroad
∙ African Explorer—Southern Africa by Private Train
∙ Rovos Rail—Epic Journeys Across Africa
∙ The Royal Al Andalus in Spain

UNIQUE CRUISE JOURNEYS

∙ Majestic Mekong—Cruises in Laos and Thailand
∙ Magical Myanmar—Cruises on the Irrawaddy
∙ Amazing Amazon—River Cruises Through Brazil
∙ Russia’s Magnificent Rivers—Volga, Lena and Amur

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